

# The Flat Hat

The Student Newspaper of the College of William and Mary since 1911

VOL.96, NO.23

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2007

FLATHATNEWS.COM

## Delly firm on sale to Starbucks

*Delly General Manager says he is 95 percent sure Starbucks will replace the Delly by next year*

BY ALEXANDER ELY  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Pending completion of an environmental survey to the satisfaction of Starbucks, the College Delly and Pizza Restaurant will end its 42-year history in Williamsburg July 1. According to Delly General Manager Ray Causey, Starbucks has maintained its interest throughout the year, and barring the unlikely event that the immediate area does not pass the Virginia Association of Hazardous Materials standards, an agreement between owner Dean Tsamouras and Starbucks will likely be reached soon.

Tsamouras has owned the Delly for 22 years and has long desired to maintain its name and tradition. However, recent offers from alumni and other interested parties to keep the name have not provided the same financial security as the offer from Starbucks. According to Tsamouras, he decided to sell the Delly last September, and Starbucks has been interested in the property since.

"Sometime in the middle of June is our target date for closing," Causey said. He added that a final signing of the lease would likely take place within the next two weeks, and he believed that Starbucks' target opening date would be October 1, 2007. Tsamouras said that while there was no official agreement, "a lot of things would have to happen for it to fall apart."

Under the terms of the lease agreement, Starbucks would be the beneficiary of a 20-year agreement with two additional five-year options, while Tsamouras will remain landlord of the property. Tsamouras did

See DELLY page 5



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT  
The College Delly will likely be sold to Starbucks.

## Senate votes for its own existence

BY MEGHAN O'MALLEY  
THE FLAT HAT

Senator Shariff Tanious, a junior, introduced a bill that would dissolve the senate and delegate its powers to the Undergraduate Council. The Student Empowerment and Efficiency Act (SB 314) was introduced on the floor of the senate Tuesday, March 20 but failed to pass with a final vote of 2-18-0.

The bill would have needed two-thirds of the senate, the Undergraduate Council and the Graduate Council to vote in favor in order for it to be ratified.

Tanious, a two-term senator who is not running for re-election, introduced the bill in order to foster greater accountability and awareness among the student body concerning the senate's activities. He focused specifically on its degree of effectiveness, the legislation being introduced and the issue of personal

See SENATE page 5

### WREN CROSS CONTROVERSY

## Controversy calms as cross returns

*Both SavetheWrenCross.org and Our Campus United support the decision*

BY ANGELA COTA  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

The new policy regarding the placement of the cross within the Wren Chapel suggested by the Committee on Religion in a Public University presumably brings an end to the Wren cross controversy. However, it may usher new attention to College President Gene Nichol's

decisions, despite the fact that many on campus seemed to view the cross as a non-issue even while it garnered national media attention.

The conflict has brought the College's donors to the forefront, as some withdrew their money. One such alumni was Margee Pierce, '84, who joined the "No Cross, No Cash" listing on SavetheWrencross.org. She plans to continue donating upon the return of the cross, but she is now paying more attention to where her money is going.

"While I will resume donations, I

will no longer give money to the Fund for William and Mary — or any unrestricted money that can be spent with minimal oversight," she said. "I will carefully target my donations to the programs and projects that I can fully support and that fit with my values and goals."

But her concern for the institution remained strong even though she did not agree with Nichol's decision.

"I am concerned over the fact that

See CROSS page 4



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT  
The cross will be in a glass case.



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT  
A burial site for Wendy Reves, a major donor to the College's international program, is prepared in a cemetery near Blow Memorial Hall. Former College President Benjamin Ewell, who died in 1894, was the last person to be buried in the cemetery. Reves' donations allowed for the creation of the Reves Center.

## Reves first to be buried in College cemetery since 1894

BY KARA STARR  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

Wendy Reves will be the first person buried in the College's cemetery near Blow Memorial Hall in over a century.

Although Reves died Tuesday, March 13 in France, her generous endowment to the College's international studies program, which resulted in the creation of the Reves Center for International Studies, continues to impact the College.

A fashion model and art connoisseur with no priorities to the College, Reves requested to be buried in the College's cemetery, which has not been used since the death of former College president Benjamin S. Ewell in 1894.

"Reves was a true American original, a larger-than-life character who bestrode the worlds of fashion, art and politics with singular grace and style," Vice Provost of International Affairs Mitchell Reiss said in an interview with the Virginia Gazette.

Reves had sought to memorialize her husband, Emery Reves, a prominent anti-Nazi advocate and writer, after his death in 1981.

After many million-dollar art donations, Reves finally found the perfect way

to commemorate her husband's life in 1987, with what she proudly referred to as "my building." The \$3 million donation, which allowed for the creation of the Reves Center, was made at the recommendation of a friend, as tribute to her husband. In doing so, she also rescued a historic building, the former Tyler Hall, from being torn down.

"Wendy Reves and her husband Emery inspired an international program at the College whose reach has almost equaled the esteem felt for its namesakes around the world. That is, as she would say, I think, among the greatest of her innumerable legacies. [The College] was beyond fortunate to have her friendship and will literally never forget her," President Nichol said in a statement.

Reves spent the past 26 years working to preserve her husband's memory through philanthropy with many other organizations as well, including the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and the Dallas Museum of Art. James Bill, the Reves Center's first director, remembered the benefactor as "magnetic, flamboyant and unforgettable."

The College is currently talking to the friends of Reves and those in charge of



A portrait of Reves

COURTESY • THE REVES CENTER

See BURIAL page 5

## CW alters live history program

BY ELIZA MURPHY  
THE FLAT HAT

"RevolutionaryCity," a Colonial Williamsburg program that was started last year in an effort to increase ticket sales, is undergoing some changes for the start of the 2007 tourist season.

"Revolutionary City" is a two-hour theater presentation that takes place on the streets of Colonial Williamsburg. Each program consists of seven scenes highlighting the events that occurred in Williamsburg prior to and during the American Revolution.

The action in the scenes of this year will look similar to last year's. However there is now a more systematic schedule detailing which scenes will take place on what day. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, a program entitled "The Collapse of the Royal Government" will take place. On Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, "Citizens at War" will occur. A new program entitled "Nation Builders" will be performed Mondays.

Monday's performance of "Nation Builders" includes scenes of famous founding fathers such as Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry and George Washington. There are also performances from lesser-known contributors to the founding of America. These characters discuss issues such as the Declaration of Independence's impact on their lives.

The action in "The Collapse of the Royal Government" takes place between 1774 and 1776. Actor-interpreters perform the events that caused colonial Americans to turn against the British government prior to the Declaration of Independence.

"Citizens at War" contains scenes from 1776-1781 that reflect how the Revolutionary War affected Williamsburg citizens.

Street theater scenes are the core of the "Revolutionary City" program, but there are many other performances. "Revolutionary Stories," a new program, consists of speeches from characters in the "Revolutionary City" scenes. These speeches serve to provide insight into the lives and goals of the characters from the "Revolutionary City" scenes. Characters include Lord and Lady Dunmore and Patrick Henry.

Another new program is "Revolutionary City After Dark," an evening program that begins in April. "The Gunpowder Plot," is a walking tour exploring the events of the Gunpowder Incident, and "A Capitol Ball" includes music and dance to celebrate the arrival of Lady Dunmore.

"Revolutionary City" began March 19. The main scenes take place between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. and are open to College students. "Revolutionary Stories" will take place in the morning. Street theater scenes will take place along Duke of Gloucester Street from Botetourt Street to the Capitol, and "Revolutionary Stories" will take place at the Governor's Palace.



NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

25 Campus Center, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. 23185  
Editorial Dept. (757) 221-3281 • Advertising Dept. (757) 221-3283 • Fax (757) 221-3242

The Flat Hat — editor@flathatnews.com  
News — news@flathatnews.com • Variety — variety@flathatnews.com • Sports — sports@flathatnews.com  
Reviews — reviews@flathatnews.com • Opinions — opinions@flathatnews.com  
Advertising — ads@flathatnews.com

Andy Zahn, Editor-in-Chief  
Ashley Baird, Managing Editor • Chase Johnson, Executive Editor  
Patrick Bisceglia, Business Manager • Helen Chacon, Accountant

Brian Mahoney, News Editor	Ashley Morgan, Assoc. Variety Editor
Austin Wright, News Editor	Megan Doyle, Assoc. Variety Editor
Alice Hahn, Variety Editor	Sarah Sibley, Assoc. Opinions Editor
Jeff Dooley, Sports Editor	Erin Grady, Assoc. Opinions Editor
Connor McKay, Reviews Editor	Miles Hilder, Assoc. Sports Editor
Joe Kane, Opinions Editor	Andrew Pike, Assoc. Sports Editor
Chris Adams, Copy Chief	Alex Guillen, Assoc. Reviews Editor
Taylor Martindale, Copy Chief	Nate Burgess, Graphics Editor
Alex Haglund, Photography Editor	Julia Snyder, Sex Column Cartoonist
Jonathan Seiden, Photography Editor	Miles Hilder, Production Assistant
Max Fisher, Chief Staff Writer	Spencer Atkinson, Production Assistant
Maxim Lott, Assignment Editor	Lauren Nelson, Production Assistant
Mohammad Rahman, Online Editor	Summer Finck, Production Assistant
Alex Ely, Editorial Writer	Stephen Knapp, Production Assistant
Alexandra Cochrane, Assoc. News Editor	Catherine Anderson, Copy Editor
Angela Cota, Assoc. News Editor	Betsy Dougert, Copy Editor
Morgan Figa, Assoc. News Editor	Portia Formento, Copy Editor
Carl Siegmund, Assoc. News Editor	Katie McCown, Copy Editor
Kara Starr, Assoc. News Editor	Martha Morris, Copy Editor

Corrections

In the March 6 edition of The Flat Hat, an article on Windows Vista incorrectly stated that the operating system would be available in public computer labs during the 2007-2008 academic year. The operating system will be available during the 2008-2009 academic year. The article also incorrectly stated that the operating system comes with Microsoft Office 2007. It does not.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Friday



High 82°  
Low 58°

Saturday



High 74°  
Low 51°

Sunday



High 64°  
Low 43°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“The only thing that could really stop it is if the HazMat were to come back showing a high level of contamination.”  
- Dean Tsamouras, owner of the Delly on the Starbucks deal.  
See COLLEGE STARBUCKS page 1

“It is pathetic for a do-nothing senator to propose a bill like this and think that he is making a statement or a point.”  
-SA Sen. Joe Luppino-Esposito on Sen. Shariff Tanious’s proposed bill to increase the Student Assembly’s efficiency.  
See SENATE page 1

News in Brief

Dining hall changes go into effect

Previously open until 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, the UC will now close at 8 p.m. Dining Services Director Phil DiBenedetto said that, on average, 40 students used the UC Center Court between 8 and 9 p.m. each day, and only 10 used it between the hours of 9 and 10 p.m.

To accommodate students who want to eat late, Dining Services will keep the Student Exchange open until 9 p.m. and offer a meal plan option.

— by Maxim Lott

College alum pleads on list to replace Gonzales

James Comey, ’82, is one of three people deemed “confirmable” by Democratic U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer to possibly replace Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who may be fired for the mishandling of the firing of eight U.S. attorneys. Comey, who left the Justice Department in 2005, was former deputy attorney general Larry Thompson’s replacement.

— by Carl Siegmund

By the Numbers

186 percent

The increase in textbook prices since 1986, according to a report by the Government Accountability Office. Since 1986 the price of the average consumer good has risen just 72 percent, while the cost of college tuition and

1150

The average SAT score of Tribe athletes. The score has been increasing over the last few years, according to a Feb 2006 College athletic report.

23.5 minutes

The average amount of face-to-face socializing time that a person gives up for one hour of internet use, according to a 2001 Stanford study on the effects of technology on social contact.

91

The number of times that Sacha Baron Cohen, as Borat, was stopped by police during the filming of his movie, according to online movie database imdb.com.

\$300,000

The cost of renting the country of Liechtenstein for a night, according to the Times of London. The tiny, wealthy country participates in the “Rent a Village” project, which allows corporations to rent it for conventions.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO • THE DES MOINES REGISTER

An Iowa State senior was one of the few fraternity members to donate blood during Greek Week.

BEYOND THE BURG

Greek system protests blood drive

By MORGAN FIGA  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

Because of a federal regulation that prohibits some gay men from donating blood, several sororities and fraternities at Iowa State University chose not to participate in a week-long, campus-wide blood drive.

According to reports from the Associated Press and The Des Moines Register, the protest caused a loss of between 400 and 500 donations from the largest student-run blood drive in Iowa.

The blood drive is part of Iowa State’s Greek Week, a series of philanthropy events and contests organized by the sororities and fraternities on campus. The protest began after Delta Lambda Phi, a fraternity for gay and bisexual men, objected to the blood drive because the Red Cross was unable to accept donations from some of the members.

The Red Cross’s reluctance to accept donations stems from federal legislation. In 1992, the

U.S. Food and Drug Administration guidelines disallowed men who have had sex with other men since 1977 from donating blood. The FDA created the rule in order to keep the blood supply protected from HIV.

Traditionally, the blood drive receives a majority of its donations from sorority and fraternity members competing to see which organization could have the highest number of volunteers. Due to protests, Greek Week officials decided to end the competition.

“We don’t want to endorse events that don’t give equal opportunity to all of our members,” Iowa State senior Courtney Knupp, the general co-chairwoman to oversee Greek Week activities, told the Register.

Jennifer Plagman-Galvin, Iowa State’s Greek Affairs adviser, told the Register that the organizers ended the blood drive because some students cannot give blood due to medical history or religious affiliation.

Delta Lambda Phi praised the

decision to end the competition between Greek organizations. No single fraternity or sorority expressed frustration with the decision, but members from several organizations spoke out against the protest.

By mid-week, Iowa State officials realized the effect that the protest was having on the blood drive. In 2006, the school received 713 usable units of blood and this March they only received 466.

This is not the first time the issue has occurred on a college campus. In 2005, the University of Maine’s student senate requested that all student organizations to stop participating in blood drives with the Red Cross.

While the American Red Cross did not oppose the 1992 regulations in the past, they have begun to protest more recently. In March, they lobbied the FDA to change the rule so that only men who had sex with other men in the past year are ineligible to give blood.

STREET BEAT

What have you been doing in the nice weather?



Trying to be outside as much as I can.

Chris Kuntz, freshman



Sitting outside versus the library.

Monica Dihn, sophomore



Sunbathing and surfing and walking my dog and walking on the beach with my boyfriend.

Michael Wade, freshman



Admiring the trees and going on nature hikes and swinging from tree vines.

Kevin Lehr, freshman

— photos and interviews by Virginia Newton

CITY POLICE BEAT

Mar. 3 to Mar. 17

**Sunday, March 3** — A 55-year-old man was arrested at 1400 Richmond Road and charged with possession of a controlled substance and being drunk in public. 1

— A 51-year-old female was arrested at 1400 Richmond Road and charged with being drunk in public. 1

— A 48-year-old man was arrested at 1400 Richmond Road and charged with being drunk in public. 1

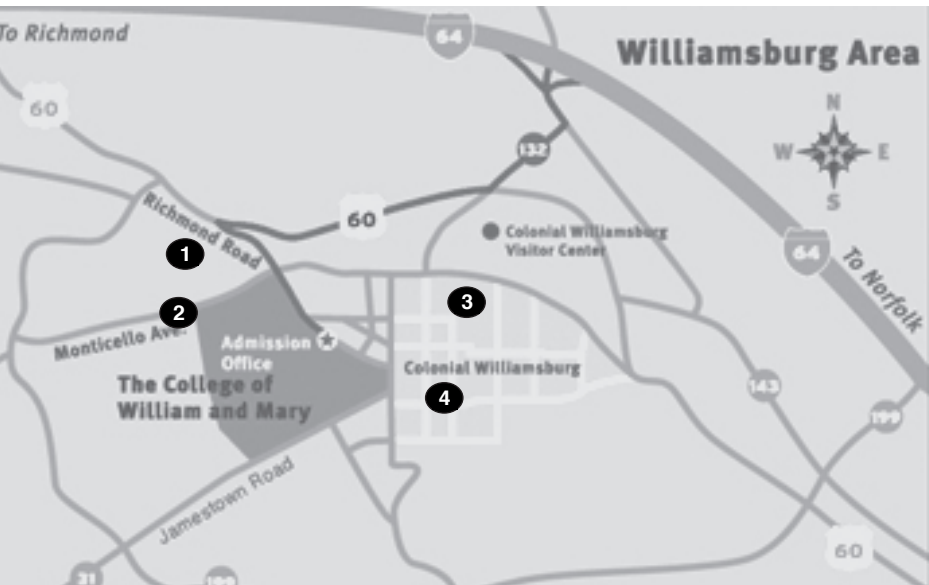
**Sunday, March 4** — A 19-year-old man was arrested at 1400 Richmond Road for driving under the influence and refusal to submit to arrest. It was his first DUI offense. 1

— A 30-year-old man was arrested at 400 Scotland Street and was charged with being drunk in public. 1

**Wednesday, March 7** — A 51-year-old female was arrested at Big Lots at 200 Monticello Avenue and charged with embezzlement. 2

**Thursday, March 8** — A 49-year-old male was arrested at the corner of Lafayette Street and Botetourt Street and charged with driving under the influence. It was his first DUI offense. 3

— An unidentified individual was arrested and charged with credit card fraud and credit card theft. The individual was charged with using stolen credit cards to



buy a coffee/tea set at Shirley Pewis on 1200 Jamestown Road and wine and food at the Cheese Shop. 4

— A 31-year-old man was arrested at 1100 Jamestown Road. He was charged with robbery, a third charge of petit larceny and the theft of two credit cards. Along with the stolen credit cards, he also had stolen cash and a stolen wallet on his person. 4

**Tuesday, March 13** — A 27-year-old man was arrested at 1300 Richmond Road for possession of a controlled substance and possession of marijuana. 1

**Thursday, March 15** — A 27-year-old man was arrested for possession of

marijuana. — A 23-year-old man was arrested on Monticello Avenue and charged with driving under the influence. 2

**Friday, March 16** — A 47-year-old man was arrested at 1400 Richmond Road and charged with possession of controlled substances. He also had his driving privileges revoked. 1

— A 36-year-old male was arrested at 1300 Richmond Road and charged with being drunk in public. 1

— A 24-year-old female was arrested at 100 Matoaka Court and charged with driving under the influence. 5

—compiled by Morgan Figa

This week in Flat Hat history

1930

The College established a policy allowing students a maximum of four unexcused absences for each class per semester.

After five skipped classes, students would be automatically dropped from the class roll. If losing a class left students with fewer than the required number of hours, they would have to withdraw from the College.

Only deans and medical officers were allowed to excuse absences.

1952

The William and Mary Theatre group finished preparations for their production of “Thor, With Angels.” “Thor, With Angels,” a religious play, was the first completely student-run production in College history. The proceeds were to go toward religious emphasis week in the fall of 1952.

1988

The Office of Residence Life bumped 495 of the 3,009 students who had paid a \$100 deposit to be entered into the housing lottery.

This was an increase from the previous year when only 380 students were bumped, College officials reported.

The large size of the class of 1990 contributed to the high number of students bumped from the lottery.

1985

Two students assisted Campus and Williamsburg police in following and capturing two armed robbers.

Two men participated in an armed robbery at the corner of Cary Street and Jamestown Road. They escaped onto new campus where they were soon arrested.

— compiled by Morgan Figa



# Professor receives grant from Dept. of Defense

BY ALINA TODOR  
THE FLAT HAT

Physics professor Henry Krakauer was recently awarded a \$500,000 grant to continue his research on piezoelectrics, according to a press release from Joe McClain.

“[Piezoelectrics are] materials that convert energy from one form to another,” McClain said. According to the press release, piezoelectrics are considered crucial in both military and civilian applications and their uses range from serving as transducers in naval sonar systems to medical uses and automobile parts.

The grant was given by the U.S. Department of Defense through the Office of Naval Research as part of the government’s multi-million dollar campaign to increase research of equipment. McClain said that the money will be used to buy and install a new computer cluster at the Center for Piezoelectrics by Design. The computer cluster will be used at the CPD to continue studying piezoelectrics and their applications.

According to the CPD’s website, www.cpd.wm.edu, it is a multi-institutional center funded by a grant from the Office of Naval Research that conducts “research into the theoretical prediction and experimental realization of new members of a unique class of materials.”

Because piezoelectrics have the ability to convert sound energy into electric energy, they are very useful in naval operations.

“Some of the immediate technological challenges being tackled at the CPD will result in increasing the performance, effectiveness and longevity of naval electronics,” McClain said.

“[Krakauer’s work] has generated more than \$7 million in funding over the last five years for the College,” Dennis Manos, the College’s provost for research said.

This important research will continue to be influential as the CPD continues to search for better applications for piezoelectrics. “It will increase the CPD’s computing power tenfold,” McClain said.

# High school uninvites Nichol

BY JESSICA TAUBMAN  
THE FLAT HAT

College President Gene Nichol was uninvited to speak at the commencement ceremony at Walsingham Academy, a local high school. According to the Daily Press, the invitation withdrawal was the result of the Wren cross controversy.

According to the Virginia Gazette, parents at Walsingham Academy protested Nichol’s invitation and pressured the school to rescind. The situation was further complicated because Nichol’s daughter is a member of the graduating senior class.

The Virginia Gazette reported that the school had preferred that Nichol withdraw himself, but that he did not and as a result, the school revoked the request.

Nichol addressed the issue in a letter to the editor of the Virginia Gazette March 7.

“Months ago, when the Wren cross issue became so controver-

sial, I contacted Walsingham officials and offered to withdraw as commencement speaker. I was informed that, as a matter of principle, my offer would not be accepted. ... Last week I was told that the invitation was now being withdrawn. I asked only that it be clearly explained that the school made the decision, not me. Such an explicit commitment was made. It was apparently breached as well,” Nichol wrote.

While some were opposed to the president speaking at Walsingham’s graduation ceremony, others thought it wrong to revoke his invitation.

“I don’t have a problem with him being the speaker. I think we’ve had a close association with William and Mary and a lot of help from them ... I think the cross issue is overblown. It’s about the students, and I think outside of this issue he is very respected in his role at the university,” Bill Athayde, a parent of three children who have gone through the Walsingham Academy, told the Virginia Gazette.

A replacement speaker has not been announced.



CASEY SKULLY • THE FLAT HAT  
*Nichol’s invitation to speak was withdrawn due to the cross issue.*

# Undergrad business program ranked among best in country

BY JOSHUA BARR  
THE FLAT HAT

The Mason Undergraduate Business Program achieved a rating of 29th in BusinessWeek’s 2007 annual survey of the 50 best programs in the country, after not being ranked in 2006.

The Mason School ranked 11th among public universities in the “return on investments” category. Combined with its 29th place, the school makes the top 10 of public university business programs overall.

The survey looked at starting salaries for graduates and how many students each undergraduate program sent to top MBA programs.

Also, the magazine developed an academic quality score, as well as a survey of nearly 80,000 business majors and numerous undergraduate recruiters. The final rankings were based on an “index number,” which represents the sum of all five ranking measures. The Mason Program achieved an academic quality rank of 16th. BusinessWeek also developed letter grades for teaching quality, facilities and services and job placement.

The Mason Undergraduate School achieved letter grades of “A” for both teaching quality and facilities and services. However, the job placement was given a grade of “B,” although the recruiter survey rank of the program was 82nd in the school.

“We do not like to see ‘B’ grades on our scorecard,

and it is also clear that not enough corporate recruiters around the country know what we know about the extraordinary quality of our graduates,” Dean of the Mason School of Business Lawrence B. Pulley said.

Although some deem rankings such as these trivial, the administration feels otherwise.

“Many of our stakeholders such as alumni, current and prospective students, faculty and recruiters watch these rankings,” Pulley said.

But for Pulley the grade is a good start.

“We believe we can do better, and there is useful guidance in the data for how we might do so in ways that are consistent with our main goal of creating an exceptional educational experience for our students,” he said.

The program, which enrolls about one-sixth of the student body, and typically admits students at the beginning of their third or fourth semester of undergraduate study.

The business program also places an emphasis on leadership and experience through study abroad, live cases and faculty and executive mentoring programs.

“The Undergraduate Business Program exemplifies the core strengths of the great tradition of the William and Mary education. Our individualized program of study empowers students in designing an educational experience that will provide a strong foundation for a personalized, comprehensive path toward fulfilling their aspirations,” Pulley told Mason School of Business News.



COURTESY GRAPHIC • WILLIAM AND MARY NEWS  
*The College recently unveiled their plans for the new Alan B. Miller Hall, which will facilitate both undergraduate and graduate business programs. The \$75 million dollar project will take two years to build.*

## STUDENT ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES

**PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT**  
Zach Pilchen and Valerie Hopkins  
Brad Potter and Brett Phillips

**CLASS OF 2010**  
**PRESIDENT**  
Ali Snell

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVOCACY**  
Roxanne Lepore

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**  
Alyssa Wallace  
Matt Sullivan

**SECRETARY**  
Laura Nelson  
Robinson “Woody” Woodward

**TREASURER**  
Andrew Noll  
Sonam Shah

**SENATOR**  
Ray Ciabattoni  
David Cooper  
Ryan Eickel  
Divya Gongireddy  
Sara Guruswamy  
Khaleelah Jones  
Wes Mabee  
Steven Nelson  
Sarah Rojas  
Orlando Watson

**CLASS OF 2009**  
**PRESIDENT**  
Kevin Dua

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVOCACY**  
Kristin Slawter

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**  
Kristen Seay

**SECRETARY**  
No Candidates

**TREASURER**  
Ashley Wheelock

**SENATOR**  
Matt Beato  
John Constance  
Cliff Dunn  
Walter McClean  
Caroline Mullis  
Sean Sheppard  
Brian Story  
Ellie Thomas

**CLASS OF 2008**  
**PRESIDENT**  
Nick Faulkner  
Daniel Izdiak

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVOCACY**  
Matt Brown  
Ashley Slaff  
Shariff Tanious

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS**  
Patrick Donaldson  
Bryan Jones

**SECRETARY**  
Ashley Pinney

**TREASURER**  
No Candidates

**SENATOR**  
Will Angley  
Gordon Auduong  
Devan Barber  
Larisa Gervasi  
Joe Luppino-Esposito  
Thom Silverstein  
Matt Skibiak  
Tiseme Zegeye



COURTESY PHOTOS • POTTER AND PILCHEN CAMPAIGNS  
*[Above top] SA sen. Brett Phillips, a junior, and Brad Potter, junior and VP for student advocacy for the class of 2008. [Above bottom] Sophomores SA sen. Zach Pilchen and Valerie Hopkins. Elections take place this Thursday on sin.wm.edu.*

AS A COLLEGE GRAD,  
YOU MAY BE  
ELIGIBLE FOR

\$4000

ANY NEW TOYOTA OF YOUR CHOICE\*

2007  
FJ  
CRUISER

2007  
RAV4

2007  
CAMRY  
HYBRID

2007  
YARIS

TOYOTA | moving forward ▶

TOYOTA

buyatoyota.com

\*NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. CUSTOMERS RECEIVE \$400 FROM TOYOTA TOWARDS LEASING OR FINANCING THE PURCHASE OF NEW UNTITLED TOYOTA MODELS THROUGH PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALERS AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. SEE DEALER OR VISIT WWW.TOYOTAFINANCIAL.COM/FINANCE FOR DETAILS. COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR TERMINATION AT ANY TIME. \*NO PURCHASE IS NECESSARY. MAKING A PURCHASE DOES NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. TO ENTER YOU MUST BE A LEGAL U.S. RESIDENT AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD AND YOU MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE. VISIT YOUR PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER OR WINAYARISONLINE.COM FOR COMPLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND SWEEPSTAKES RULES.



# Religion committee moves past cross

By ALEXANDRA COCHRANE  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

The William and Mary Committee on Religion at a Public University convened Wednesday, March 21, at 1 p.m. in Blow Memorial Hall. The Subcommittee on Speakers opened the meeting and announced Erwin Chemerinsky, Duke University Law Professor, as the first in a series of committee-sponsored speakers. At 6 p.m. April 5, he will be speaking on “Why Church and State Should be Separate” in Millington Hall.

Co-chairs Alan Meese, Ball Professor of Law, and James Livingston, Professor Emeritus of Religion, discussed recent meetings between alumni and the committee. They reported on meetings with alumni in Chicago and the Board of the Alumni Association of the College. In February, the committee announced plans to meet with alumni from northern Virginia, Richmond and Chicago. The meeting in Richmond is scheduled for March 26, and the meeting in northern Virginia is scheduled for March 28 at Falls Church High School.

“The purpose is to inform alumni about the process the Committee employed before reaching its decision, the exact content of the recommendation and resulting policy promulgated by the President and the Board and the activities of the Committee going forward. We will, of course, be soliciting any feedback they might provide and fielding any questions they might have,” Meese said.

“At the meeting with the Board of the William and Mary Alumni

Association, we were asked what alternatives we had considered, including whether we had considered as an alternative the policy that existed before the President had issued his new policy in October 2006. As I said at the March 21 meeting, we did not divulge the contents of the Committee’s deliberations,” he said.

Meese and Livingston summarized a previous discussion with Louise Kale, Director of the Historic Chapel, to determine the exact nature of the cross display. The meeting’s focus then shifted to conferring on such issues as providing alternative spaces for student worship and prayer. Meese spoke on the short and long-term mission of the group. He mentioned goals including coordinating talks for the community, examining the role of religion in a liberal arts college, discussing multiculturalism and religious diversity and suggesting an essay contest on the role of religion in a public university. Livingston concurred and stated that the committee has an educational role to play.

Julie Galambush, associate professor of religious studies, brought up three facets of the group. She discussed the committee’s need to examine broad philosophical issues, such as the separation of church and state, to clean up the controversy generated by Nichol’s original decision about the Wren cross and to provide practical places of worship for students.

The next meetings for the William and Mary Committee on Religion at a Public University are scheduled for April 9 and 11.

*Sean Dalby contributed to this report.*

# Married alumni strengthen bond in Iraq

By JAMES DAMON  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Alyssa and Kris Waldhauser have been married over four years, but they have only lived together for six consecutive months. The couple, who met as students at the College, have both been deployed to Iraq. They say the experience has brought them closer together.

The couple graduated from the College in 2002. In an e-mail, Alyssa described herself as “any normal college student.” She performed in a comedy troupe and studied at Arizona’s Biosphere project during her sophomore year. Kris was a focused member of the college’s ROTC program where they met as members.

At the end of 2002, only months after graduating, it became apparent that Kris would be sent to Iraq. The couple married in Dec. 2002 in a ceremony officiated by a Justice of the Peace.

“Since I was getting close to completing my training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, we wanted to make sure we were legally married before I could get sent off to war,” Kris said.

Due to complications with troop deployment, Kris was not deployed to Iraq until

March 2004. He then served as a platoon leader in the neighborhood of Alamel in Southwest Baghdad. The couple remained in contact through e-mail and infrequent phone calls.

While Kris served in Southern Baghdad, Alyssa spent her time in Iraq’s Al Anbar province. As a pilot and leader for Medical Evacuation, she assisted in carrying wounded Marines. During her experiences as a MEDEVAC pilot, Alyssa described seeing, “the worst of the worst.” She did not comment on any particular experiences.

Time spent anxiously worrying about each other did not tear their relationship apart. According to Alyssa, time spent in the military shaped their marriage. In the two years they were deployed in Iraq, Alyssa estimates that they “probably fought a total of four times.”

“When you are serving in a hostile nation at the same time as the person you love more than anything else in the world, and you know that every phone call or e-mail may be your last, you don’t have time to fight about the insignificant things,” Alyssa said.

In the past two years, both Kris and Alyssa have served two tours of duty in Iraq. Some of

their service time overlapped, but one partner was often left at home. These periods created an understandable distance between them.

“Simply put, it is very easy to misunderstand and miscommunicate in that situation,” Kris said.

The couple has recently relocated outside of Fort Rucker, Alabama where Alyssa will be stationed. Kris currently works with the Alabama Army National Guard. Looking back on time spent in Iraq, the couple expressed mixed feelings about the war.

“I think the war on terror is real and should be pursued. How should it be pursued? Honestly, I don’t really know anymore,” Kris said.

Both expressed disagreement with a characterization of the war as “the spearhead of the war on terror.” While the motive behind the Iraq war might not have always seemed clear to the couple, they remain proud of their service.

“The Army and the Army experience has made us a force to be reckoned with. We are now more tenacious, belligerent and indestructible than we ever were before.” Alyssa said.

# MIT offers courses online for “self-learners”

By BRAD CLARK  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The internet can be used for functions beyond illegally downloading music, cyberstalking your classmates via Facebook and playing World of Warcraft in your underwear at 3 a.m.

At least that’s the opinion held by the administration at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who have decided to make all courses in their course catalog, amounting to over 18,000 classes, available online for free.

According to The Daily Pennsylvanian, the project, dubbed the

MIT OpenCourseWare initiative, expects to have class material such as lecture notes, syllabi and even video presentations from every class that the school offers online by November of this year. Access is not limited by any sort of cost, and anyone with an internet connection has the ability to tap into the vast curriculum of one of the best universities in the world.

“The important distinction to remember is that these courses are not being offered for credit or degrees,” Professor Eugene Roche, head of the Academic Computing Services said in The Daily Pennsylvanian.

“What MIT has seen is a large proportion of students enrolled overseas, from places with a less rich academic atmosphere, accessing the site in order to aid their own studies,” he added.

Indeed, the MIT OCW website, ocw.mit.edu, regales viewers with colorful pictures and testimonials of students and “self-learners” from around the world who have utilized the program as a supplement to their own education.

The College has no such formal program in place, although professors who wish to post materials online would certainly be able to receive help navigating technolog-

ical obstacles from the College’s IT department.

“A lot of the way that we utilize the internet comes through hybrid classes,” University Registrar Sallie Marchello said. “And, as [most students] have experienced, the Blackboard system is heavily emphasized.”

Roche similarly cast this as but one part of a much larger movement regarding education and academics.

“This is definitely a step towards furthering the long-term mission of higher education, which is the free sharing of knowledge,” he said.

# Religion committee returns cross to Chapel

CROSS from page 1

our endowment is so much smaller than many peer institutions, especially the University of Virginia. I hope President Nichol and the Board can rebuild the relationships with alumni and friends of the College that have been broken during the course of the Wren cross controversy,” she said.

While Pierce feels Nichol has hurt the College’s relationships, Tom Mikula, ’48, has strengthened his own bond to the College in light of the recent controversy and has been trying to raise money to replace what may have been lost from disappointed donors. When he heard that a \$12 million pledge had been revoked by a former major donor, Mikula decided to encourage people to donate in hopes that 1,000 people would donate \$12,000 to make up the lost funds.

“Our purpose is to support President Nichol. We don’t believe his tenure is through; we believe that this may crop up again, and we’re ready to offer what support we can,” he said.

As of now, updated figures are not available, but money has been raised.

“I can say that people have come out and said that they favor what we’re doing,” he said. “And some have offered checks — probably the most substantial was \$100,000. It is an ongoing endeavor.”

Our Campus United, a group that was heavily involved throughout the controversy and promoted keeping the debate within the College community, does not see the issue as changing anything fundamental at the College.

“This was not a legitimate issue — it was raised by a bunch of people trying make a political point. Therefore, it is unfair to say that this is going to change the way the school operates,” David Solimini, ’04, a leader of Our Campus United, said.

SavetheWrenCross.org gained attention from local and national newspapers, FOX News and CNN.

Our Campus United felt that SavetheWrenCross.org was using political pundits in a discussion that should have remained among the community members — though in the end the committee made the final decision as representatives of the community, satisfying Our Campus United.

“Did they get on TV more? Absolutely. But in the end the members of the community made the final decision,” Solimini said.

Now SavetheWrenCross.org and Our Campus United both support the Committee’s new decision, meaning a likely end to the national attention.

The cross’s position was settled in a private meeting after the last meeting of the Committee on Religion in a Public University March 6 in order to quell unrest surround-

ing the issue.

“The committee’s recommendation is unanimous. We hope that this policy regarding the display of the Wren cross will put this immediate controversy to rest,” Co-chairs Jim Livingston and Alan Meese said in a joint statement.

The final policy is that the cross will be displayed in a glass case with a plaque to commemorate the Chapel’s historical con-

nection with Anglican religion and the Bruton Parish Church in Colonial Williamsburg. Additionally, the Wren sacristy will be available for sacred objects of any religion.

Though the Committee does not yet know how or where the glass case will be placed in the chapel, this and further study of religion in the public university will continue. The committee will meet both through this semester and into the next, Meese said.



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT, COURTESY PHOTO • WM.EDU  
*(Above) March 6, the Committee on Religion in a Public University decided to return the cross to the Wren Chapel. It will now be kept in a glass case with a plaque recognizing the chapel’s Anglican roots. (Below) Nichol removed the cross from the chapel in October.*

The Flat Hat  
is hiring...

We need  
columnists  
for:

-Confusion Corner  
-The sex column  
-That Guy/Girl

Contact  
variety@flathatnews.com  
for more info



# Delly’s sale to Starbucks underway

DELLY from page 1

not have an exact figure on the contract but did say that the full lease would consist of millions of dollars.

According to Causey, Tsamouras’ reasons for selling the Delly, which he has owned since April of 1986, are largely personal and family-related.

“You do see that people love and want to keep the College Delly, but that can’t really factor in your decision when you’re trying to support your family and retire,” Causey said. “[Tsamouras] really has been torn in this process. This is more for his family and for his health.”

Tsamouras is still considering one other prominent offer. However, he said that it was nowhere near what he had been seeking. “That guy offered me a quarter of what I wanted,” he said.

Causey agreed. “Starbucks has always been the forerunner, and most of the other offers have not been bona-fide,” he said.

“Dean [Tsamouras] was always entertaining the possibility for somebody else to carry on the College Delly name,” Causey said. “But these offers haven’t had the down payment or the separation that he desires.”

Nevertheless, Tsamouras still has hope that an offer may emerge that could save the College Delly name, but this hope has proved fruitless thus far as most offers have been nowhere near the value of the property.

“I’ve been waiting for someone

to step up,” he said. “Unless someone came up here and wrote me a check, the Delly’s done.”

The initial report in The Flat Hat last September regarding the possibility of the sale of the Williamsburg landmark sparked debate over the future of the establishment. Petitions were signed, Facebook groups were created and the management of the Delly received countless questions and pleas from students, alums and Williamsburg residents.

“As the College Delly business, tradition and memory is in jeopardy of fading, offers to save it come out of the woodwork,” Causey said. “It’s the disappointment on the peoples’ faces that gets you. Everyone seems to say ‘I can’t believe you’re doing this.’ They see it as the corporate giant and the little nostalgic Delly, but I don’t know if that’s a good way to look at it.”

Causey said that Starbucks appealed to the management and owner of the Delly because of their reliability, punctuality and financial stability regarding the ownership. Tsamouras has been trying to put the Delly in the right hands for several years, but none of the offers were viable or secure enough. Causey also commented on many of the positive qualities of Starbucks, including their attentiveness to water quality and other environmental concerns.

It is these concerns that are delaying the final sale. According to Causey, Starbucks is waiting for the results of the ecological survey to discover whether there are any

environmental conditions on the premises that could jeopardize future business.

“If Starbucks wasn’t happy with the environmental [situation], and they broke the contract, that would be the only way that it wouldn’t happen,” Causey said. He added that he was 95 percent sure that there would be a Starbucks next year, and said that he “didn’t expect any complications at this point.”

Tsamouras agreed, saying that the deal seemed to be reaching its final stages.

“The only thing that could really stop it is if the HazMat were to come back showing a high level of contamination,” he said.

Tsamouras added that he is considering another more stringent environmental survey run by the College Delly in addition to the one run by Starbucks. If the survey is completed, it will push back the timeline for Starbucks’ target opening date.

Kenny Fried, a Public Relations Representative for the Starbucks Corporation, said that until a final agreement was signed, the company could not comment on the proceedings.

Tsamouras, who plans to keep his College Delly softball team, has fond memories of his time at the Delly, particularly watching students grow.

“I love the kids. Students are the only ones that deserve an explanation from me,” he said. “They’re the only thing I’ll miss. To all the students that have touched my life, thanks for all of the memories.”

# Senate votes down bill to dissolve itself

SENATE from page 1

lobbying for funding of organizations by senators.

In the bill, he describes the senate as having “become an inefficient body to convey the needs and priorities of students.”

Tanious considers the senate to be an “inefficient middle step” in the process of implementing legislation and responding to the concerns of the student body, and he feels that many of the bills introduced in the senate are “bills of opinion.”

“I have not seen something that the senate has done that the idea wasn’t initiated or carried out by someone else in the Assembly,” Tanious said.

He proposes that the senate’s power be transferred to the Undergraduate Council to make it easier to implement legislation because enforcing senatorial responsibility for legislation is very difficult. The Council also works closer with the executive branch than it does the senate. Tanious will be running for vice president of advocacy for the Class of 2008 but stated that this had no influence on his bill.

“I feel that a lot of senators use the senate as almost a personal piggy-bank for clubs or organizations that they’re interested in, and they use the senate or their positions in the senate to basically fund those activi-

ties,” Tanious said. “I don’t find that okay, that they’re circumventing the process that everyone else has to go through [to obtain funding].”

When asked to comment on Tanious’s bill, several senators responded that they opposed the bill based on the opinion that Tanious has personally been ineffective in the senate.

“It is one of the worst bills I have ever seen proposed,” Sen. Joe Luppino-Esposito, a sophomore, said. “It is pathetic for a do-nothing senator to propose a bill like this and think that he is making a statement or a point. Had Sen. Tanious done anything of substance this year, perhaps this could be taken seriously.”

Other criticisms of Tanious included complaints that he uses his computer to engage in non-senate activities such as watching ESPN and reading the Drudge Report during senate meetings, that he rarely stays until the end of senate meetings and that he has only introduced one other bill this year. Tanious responded that every senator engages in similar computer activities during meetings and that other commitments have sometimes caused him to leave meetings early.

“I want the student government to represent the students and actually go out and do something for everyone, not just your group of friends or club, or even worse, no one at all,” Tanious said.

# Burial in cemetery first since 1894

REVES from page 1

her estate to finalize many of the details for her memorial service.

These arrangements were made during former College President Tim Sullivan’s time in office, as an exception to the standard rules because of Reves’ devotion to the College.

They do not indicate a new policy for burials in the campus cemetery.

“It is a small cemetery and it has few gravestones, including members of Ewell’s family and some fac-

ulty from the 1800s. We’ve certainly honored friends of the College in the past through a variety of forms such as memorial services, statues and plaques,” College spokesman Brian Whitson said.

In her efforts to honor her husband’s esteemed memory, Reves also made herself an intrinsic part of the College’s history through her donations and deep affection.

“Mrs. Reves’ support and friendship to the College has made sure that generations of [the College’s] students have the opportunities, education and experience they need to [become] leaders in a constantly changing world,” Whitson said.

## Looking for a place to live in Williamsburg?

*Large student house located right off campus has rooms available now through August 27th. Available for rent through the end of spring semester, all of summer, or both.*

Two massive bedrooms available, each suitable for one or two people. Third bedroom available during the summer.

Perfect Harrison Avenue location right across from campus and one block from the delis. Quiet tree-lined street with plenty of streetside parking.

### House includes:

- Two bathrooms
  - Washer and dryer
- Outdoor brick patio
  - Covered car port
- Working Fireplace
  - Full kitchen
- Fully furnished dining room, laundry room, kitchen and two large living rooms
  - Available **anytime now through 8/27**. Rent for the whole period or just part.
  - Rent is inexpensive and negotiable. House is rented by W&M undergrad.

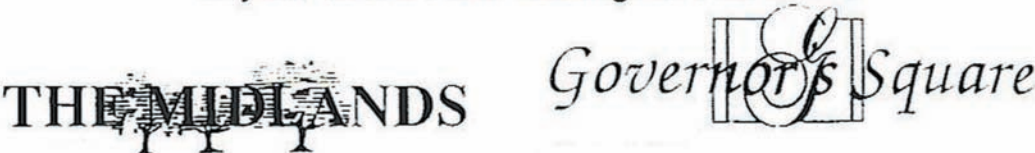
For more information, contact WilliamsburgHouseForRent@hotmail.com

## ⌘ Berkeley Realty ⌘

Property Management, Inc.

907 Richmond Road \* Williamsburg, Virginia 23185  
Phone: (757)229-6810 \* Fax: (757) 229-8208

Call Liz or Beth to schedule your tour. We will pick you up at your dorm. Now leasing for Fall 2007.



- 2 Bedrooms - \$850/Month
- 3 Bedrooms - \$940/Month
- All Appliances
- 1 1/2 Baths
- Select units include Washer/Dryer for \$50/Month

- 2 Bedrooms - \$840/Month
- 3 Bedrooms - \$960/Month
- All Appliances
- 2 Full Baths
- Fireplace
- Volleyball Court
- Laundry Facilities

Both complexes are less than two miles from campus and now within walking distance to local bus service. To see floor plans, visit our website at [www.williamsburgrentals.com](http://www.williamsburgrentals.com).



Equal Housing Opportunity

# HEY WILLIAM, BRING MARY!

(OR VICE VERSA) AND ONE OF YOU GETS A FREE BURRITO!

Come help us celebrate the grand opening of the new Williamsburg California Tortilla. Just give this coupon to the spunky cashier when you purchase a big, button-bursting burrito, and we'll give you another burrito for free\*. Yee-ha!

**I'M BBOC!**  
(BIG BURRITO ON CAMPUS)

## HEY, FREE BURRITO!

That's what Friends are for!

After purchasing a button-bursting burrito, give this coupon to the spunky cashier and we'll give you another burrito for free\*.

Free taco? Go to [californiatortilla.com](http://californiatortilla.com).

\*Offer good for Williamsburg location only. Free burrito must be of equal or lesser value. Not good with any other discount. Expires 4/5/07.

WILLIAMSBURG / 4917 COURTHOUSE STREET / 757.229.9334 / [CALIFORNIATORTILLA.COM](http://CALIFORNIATORTILLA.COM)





OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

A farewell to Flat Hat

Every year since 1911, as old staff members graduate or move on to different pursuits, The Flat Hat has selected a new staff of editors. In my last issue as editor-in-chief, I'd like to use this space to reflect on everything that has happened at the paper in the past year, and give a few brief words of thanks to everyone who has made the paper such a success this year.

This has been a momentous year for The Flat Hat, full of difficult challenges and historic firsts. It began with a bang, when we took the lead in uncovering a series of plagiarized articles by Washingtonpost.com blogger and former Flat Hat writer Ben Domenech. Since that first week, we've broken the news of the Wren cross removal and the underreporting of campus crime statistics. We updated the paper's look, with a new InSight page and improved layout across all sections. A brand new website at FlatHatNews.com has made the paper easier to read online. Our ad sales are the strongest they have been in recent memory, and our budget is balanced. Finally, our biggest achievement has been the move to twice weekly publication, allowing us to bring you the news as soon as it breaks.

Fortunately, The Flat Hat staff for the next year is one of the most experienced we have ever had. All but two of our talented staff members will be returning for another year. We're lucky enough to have Joe Kane, who has revitalized his section since he took over earlier this school year, return as opinions editor. Jonathan Seiden and Alex Haglund, who took so many great pictures this year for all of the sections and helped improve the look of every page, will stay on as photography editors and Taylor Martindale will continue to analyze every comma and clause in the paper as she supervises the copy department. Patrick Bisceglia, responsible for our recent uptick in ad sales, will continue bringing in revenue so we can pay the bills. Managing editor and resident Flat Hat mother Ashley Baird will continue on at her position.

Recently returned from China, former sports editor Chris Adams will bring his eye for detail and love of

grammar to the role of copy chief. Conor McKay, who has spent the last year gaining experience as the associate reviews editor, will take over as the editor of the section. He will be taking the place of the Alice Hahn, former reviews editor, InDesign expert and fabulous chronicler of all the Hollywood Gossip, who is stepping up to take charge of the variety section. Louis Malick, our talented sports editor responsible for the section's new place on the color back page and the consistent high quality of our sports coverage, will be leaving to spend more time with his other interests. Taking his place will be Jeff Dooley, the former associate sports editor, who is bringing his strong sports background and dedication to the paper to the sports page. Chase Johnson, who ran variety this year where he designed some of our most interesting and innovative layouts, will take on a supervisory role as executive editor of the paper. Former associate news editors Austin Wright and Brian Mahoney, who expertly handled the late nights and unexpected stories as associates, have signed up for another year and will be running the news section as co-editors. Another dedicated former news staffer, Maxim Lott, will coordinate coverage as the new assignment editor. Max Fisher, who as our former executive editor handled everything from delivery to online to page edits to firing people, will stay on to pioneer the new position of chief staff writer. Finally, former news editor Andy Zahn will be the new editor-in-chief of The Flat Hat. His encyclopedic knowledge of the news and his immense experience at the paper, from his first article in August of his freshman year to expert management of the news section this year, make him the ideal person to guide the paper during the coming year.

My time at the paper has been one of my proudest achievements, and I'm glad to have had the opportunity to work with such an amazing group of people. I truly believe that I could not be leaving the paper in more capable hands. I wish everyone the best of luck, on the paper and in everything you do. It's been an honor to work with you all.

— Joshua Pinkerton, Outgoing Editor-in-Chief

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author's name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Thinking inside the box

In glass case, Wren cross is an historic, nonreligious symbol

For some reason, when I heard about the recent decision to install the Wren cross in a glass case, the first thing that came to mind was Marcel Duchamp's infamous 1917 attempt to display a urinal as a piece of art by signing it, titling it "Fountain," and sending it to an exhibit.

(I know: it might seem like I just equated the Wren cross with a urinal. If it'll get your friends to read the column, feel free to quote me out of context on that. Otherwise, bear with me for a bit.)

Ninety years apart though they may be, the two controversies have much in common — what has happened with the cross is curiously similar to what Duchamp attempted with his "Fountain." In each situation, an object's value was shifted because of an implicit societal agreement that certain types of presentation endow specific significance to things. If the urinal were to be displayed in a space that we had designated as an art museum, it would have been regarded as

*The Wren cross's momentous move to a glass box ... confers upon it the status of an historical artifact, while temporarily robbing from it the status of a contemporary Christian icon.*

art, which is a horrifying proposition to any classicists. Likewise, the Wren cross's momentous move to a glass box — and let's not forget that accompanying plaque — almost magically confers upon it the status of an historical artifact, while temporarily robbing from it the status of a contemporary Christian icon. All it would take for the cross to restore itself as a religious symbol is a move from its clear container to an altar. The cross itself would undergo no transformation, would be no more or less visible, but its entire meaning would shift out of a communal understanding.

Philosophers, sociologists and semioticians have been studying these signs and symbols for decades; their increasing presence in our lives is one of great interest to postmodern thinkers. Jean Baudrillard, a French philosopher who died earlier this month at age 77, theorized in a somewhat post-Marxist vein that society was governed by the way it had come to value objects — that they were not merely commodities but consumer fetishes, signs and symbols to which arbitrary values had been assigned. These objects became simulacra — simulations or representations of meaning whose sheer abundance, strength and appeal have made them supersede what they stood for. In simpler terms, it's the imitation becoming the genuine article. We have built a new kind of life, posited Baudrillard, upon these simulacra, so that we live in what he dubbed

the "hyperreal," where what is real is what was once an imitation.

By placing the cross in a chapel, it was bestowed religious significance. When it was removed, the ensuing controversy was because of what it represented: the cross had become Christian history itself. To remove it was to remove Christian history. Thus, the symbol had become what it initially represented. The physical sign of the ideology and the ideology itself had become so inextricably merged that the sign was all that mattered.

This latest development is simply a clarification. That it has been greeted with mostly praise and acceptance is a testament to how strong the system of simulacra has become in our society. We assign meanings to objects so often that the objects themselves become as inviolable as what they stand for. This is, in a sense, the ultimate materialism.

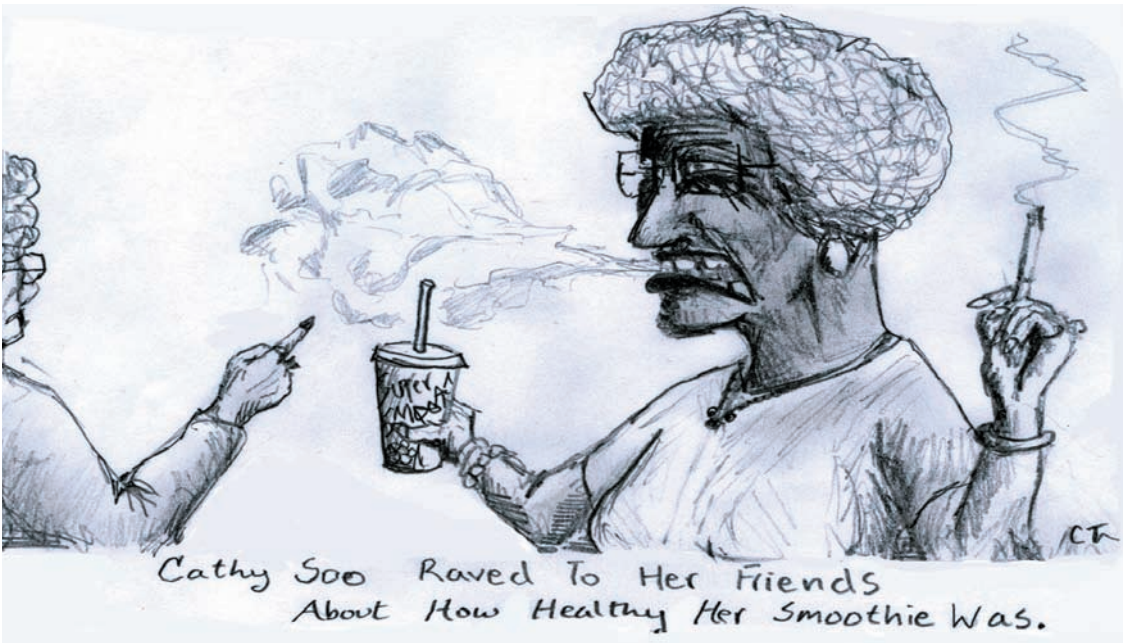
Resting proudly in its glass case, the cross is a copy of an earlier copy that had come to replace its original. (My apologies: the preceding is one of those sentences that requires a lot of rereading.) Without signing any formal agreements, the public at large has accepted that, so long as the cross stays

in the box, it means only that the chapel has Christian roots, not that it is specifically Christian in the present. The present tense does not exist in the glass box. It's easier for everyone that way. Theoretically, if you could somehow manage to climb inside the box, visitors would regard you not as an actual human being, but a preserved representation of what it meant to be human when the College was founded. It could be a pretty neat attraction, if properly organized.

Of course, a lot of humor arises from all this talk of signage. Artists found Duchamp's admission so heinous because it was a widely used joke formula put into actual practice — removing objects from their conventional settings and putting them in places where they don't, by our agreed standards, "belong." Duchamp seemed to be making a mockery of the institution of museums, just as some said removing the cross would weaken or undermine the chapel as an institution.

Hopefully, this cultural analysis sheds some amount of light on the situation, though it can't be said to affect anything other than your awareness. It is for this reason that people like me, wasting precious editorial space with highfalutin talk of glass boxes, usually end up living in cardboard ones.

Dan Piepenbring, a junior at the College, is a Staff Columnist. His columns appear every Friday.



By Chad Thompson, Flat Hat Cartoonist

The trouble with tradition

"Tradition" probably rivals the word "the" for use in campus tours — name an issue at the College and no one, from politicians to press, can go very long without mentioning it. Or the darling prospectives sitting at home in their bedrooms pouring over copies of "Insiders' Guide to the Colleges"? They're bound to find a paragraph or two featuring some student at the College gushing about the freshman march through the Wren Building as if it ranked up there with the Second Coming. We most assuredly have a love affair with tradition.



Andrew Peters

But it's this preoccupation which has tied up students and alumni in arguments over such sundry things as Campus Drive's name change, the feather plucking, the Sex Workers' Art Show and, yes, the Wren cross controversy. What is troubling about these debates is their unflinching reliance on what seems to be regarded as a hallmark of our school: tradition itself. Too often, the mantra of "this is the way things have always been" is invoked as if it automatically shields a certain practice from scrutiny.

That's not to say there haven't been decent arguments on either side of a number of controversial issues, but rather that they're being overshadowed by a bunch of preposterous claims about "established values." While there's nothing wrong with making value judgments per se, serious argumentation requires more evidence than a reference to tradition can provide. With more and more people asking "why," using "because that's the way things have always been" is holding up less and less.

The College is nothing if not intellectual and we're being ignorant if we think we can avoid the rigor of crafting more serious defenses by simply citing the status quo. The NCAA's decision which resulted in our defeathering exemplifies when a tradition makes sense.

*Serious argumentation requires more evidence than a reference to tradition can provide.*

The reasonable defense of our feathers — as reflections of academic and regional heritage — was largely drowned out by cries of "Um, that's retarded. We've been doing things this way for as long as we can remember and nobody really cared." Notice the difference.

This brings us to the more contentious issues at the intersection of tradition and ideology featuring "The Vagina Monologues," the Wren cross and the Sex Workers' Art Show, the last of which I recall reading somewhere was part of a liberal plan to destroy our moral norms. Since the Wren cross was exhausted as a topic long ago, let's muse on the norm-bustin' Sex Workers' Art Show. By and large, the criticism it received was for being yet another attack on traditional values. Values, however, prove difficult if not impossible to cite in a reasonable discussion barring those with universal acceptance (one assumes there aren't many folks out there fighting for the right to murder).

The more practical point of contention was that the art show glorified or glamorized the sex industry, a business which has objectified women and reinforced the "male aggressor" stereotype leading to, as One in Four is fond of pointing out, a higher incidence of rape. But, as mentioned, most detractors ignored this path and instead chose to call the show a disgusting affront to traditional values without offering any further argument. Unless you're looking for a messy debate about faith in religious tenets, all argument must inherently stop when moral norms come up. Just how deep does the question "Why do you believe adultery is wrong?" really go?

Why do we hold the Yule Log ceremony? Why did we have feathers in our logo? Why does the Wren Chapel have a cross? These things and others are all part of campus tradition, but the important thing is that we can explain them. Tradition without occasional scrutiny, on the other hand ... well, try to find the sense in that.

Andrew Peters, a sophomore at the College, is a Staff Columnist. His columns appear every Friday.

Multiple voices respond to ad

Lecture. That's what professors do, right? Lecture. Perhaps lecturing is how many professors (and students) wanted college to be. We, however, value discussion — multiple voices. When we read Professor Delos's "message" to men published in the Feb. 23 issue, we felt pressed upon and silenced. Considering that lectures are a singular, aggressive voice declaring the view of one, we find it troubling that he makes claims to value our sexual community as a whole. In the spirit of multiple voices, we have collaborated to write an open letter — an unpaid advertisement — to our fellow students. We have a collected sense of anger, but we shall address specific issues that resonate on an individual level.



Sarah Klotz  
Nathaniel Amos

Sarah: While Delos speaks to the "men" of the community, he speaks for the "young ladies" of the community as well. As a woman heavily invested in the intellectual pursuits of our college, I found his advertisement terrifying. Where do I even begin? Pointing to my "higher biological investment in reproduction," Delos denies the contribution of women to the campus: intellectually, professionally, spiritually — the list goes on.

Delos's paternalistic outlook on sexuality is archaic at best and ignorant at worst. His voice is chorused by a surprising variety of people as recently evidenced by the outbursts against the Sex Workers' Art Show, which serves as a touchstone to illustrate how key members of the community seek to control sexuality through silence.

Instead of regulating sexuality in general, Delos removes women from the equation, giving only men the power to make sexual choices and giving women the "privilege" of having those choices imposed upon them. Sexuality, for women, is not an entirely reproductive act. To think so limits expressions of female sexuality, which run as diversely from non-vaginal sex to abstinence.

Nathaniel: Delos spoke to me as a man, so I shall speak to him as one. His ad narrows the discourse on sexuality and removes the opportunity for conversation.

*Delos cites scientific views on sexuality, [but] we have framed our discussion in humanistic terms.*

As a queer-identified man, I have taken many opportunities to explore a range of sexual expression, yet Delos seeks to restrict that exploration. As much as Sarah points to the continuum of female sexuality, I urge men to look beyond Delos's views and take hold of their sexuality.

Delos speaks of "manliness," yet he defines this troubling term solely through sexual choices. "Manliness" extends beyond sexual choice. I would hope that men of the campus community would define themselves in more constructive terms than simply through sexual encounters with women.

Sexuality, in itself, is not threatening, neither to the moral fabric of society nor to the individual. What is threatening is silence and imposed power. When he removes women's voices from the sexual conversation, it is strikingly similar to the silence of women in sexually coercive situations. My fellow men: to combat the imposed power of Delos and others like him, start a conversation.

Us: By no means do we claim to be experts on everything about sexuality or sexual "virtue." Delos cites scientific views on sexuality, and, while we do not devalue these studies, we have framed our discussion in humanistic terms. "Humanistic" reverberates with a variety of implications (feminist, queer, progressive) and speaks to a communal desire for genuine equality, communication and understanding. When Delos condescends to "discuss these issues with any campus group," we hope equality, communication and understanding can be achieved. However, we have our doubts.

We are limited to 700 words. Delos had the financial and professional resources to purchase a full page ad. We are students. Delos, and others like him, has the nominal authority of a Ph.D. and age. We are, however, members of the community to which Delos speaks. Therefore, we urge members of the community to recognize the authority they hold and to engage in difficult dialogue about these difficult issues.

We opened with a question about lecturing and we end with an answer: Yes. Professors lecture, but community members respond.

Nathaniel Amos and Sarah Klotz, are juniors at the College.



# Goodbye to The College Delly

By CHASE JOHNSON  
FLAT HAT EXECUTIVE EDITOR

As they walk through the door of The College Delly and Pizza Restaurant, patrons are immediately grabbed by the smell. It's a mix of smoke, fried food and beer, with a pinch of hookah — exactly how a college bar should smell. The green- and tan-striped walls are plastered with College

pictures of exuberant graduating seniors. The pictures on the walls are but a tiny fraction of the Delly's collection, all mementos of the establishment's two business partners, owner Dean Tsamouras and general manager Ray Causey.

Above the counter is a make-shift sign advertising "last edition" T-shirts bearing the Delly's insignia. Along the bottom

summer to make room for a new Starbucks.

Tsamouras is a man full of stories. He could talk for hours on end about the experiences he's had owning the Delly since he bought it in 1986 at the ripe age of 21. The phrase "off the record" doesn't seem to be part of his vernacular, as he recalled former students and ranted about the cops with a candor that makes it seem as if you've known him for years.

As the owner, Tsamouras rarely takes a day off. "There were times when Ray and I wouldn't take a day off for months at a time," he said. "I'm in here almost every night. But we've had some fun times."

Tsamouras recalled one night after a snow storm before the construction of the Delly's outside patio. "It had snowed about a foot that day," he said. "Some guys were outside having a snowball fight with the people waiting in line to get into Paul's [Deli] across the street."

The fight was moved from Scotland Street to Richmond Road when the owner of Paul's asked them to move so they didn't break the windows. "One team was behind the brick wall over on the other side of Richmond, and we were over here behind our wall. That fight lasted until six in the morning. At one point, there was a cab driving up the road and we said, 'Don't drive here, we're having a snowball fight.' But you know how cabbies can be, and he

was like, 'Fuck you,' so we pelted the cab. He called the police, and when the cop showed up, he told us to stop, and we pelted him. He told the cabbie, 'You probably shouldn't drive here anymore tonight. I can't do anything about it.' That was a crazy night."

In addition to snowball fights, the Delly has also seen its fair share of celebrities over the years. "One time Bruce Hornsby came in with Jerry Garcia. My mom was working the counter, and she ended up telling Jerry that he should lose some weight," Tsamouras said.

The Delly has also served professional athletes, such as retired NBA star David Robinson and current Minnesota Viking safety Darren Sharper, '97, and stars, such as Glenn Close, '74, and Jon Stewart, '84.

"Jon used to come in with the soccer team," Causey said. "Even back then, he had the same biting humor as he does now."

Campus groups, such as sports teams and Greek organizations, have been one of the staples of the Delly's success. "When the Delly first opened, it was like a mom and pop sandwich place," Tsamouras said. "The only people from the College that hung out here were the Sigma Chis. We had to build up the loyalty from the students. We started a delivery business from the Delly in '86, and we used to employ a couple of fraternity brothers to deliver for us. That translated into making the Delly a hangout scene with drinking and all that."

Gradually, the Delly gained



popularity and it grew to the point that several fraternities had a night to deliver. "The way it worked was if the guy who was supposed to deliver that night couldn't do it, he'd get one of his brothers to cover for him," Causey said. "We'd get the Theta Delts, the Lambos and a bunch more. We'd give them a tab, and they'd just hang out here, and it was a lot of fun. Sometimes they'd bring sororities with them. Everyone got to be good friends."

Having built up his niche in Williamsburg nightlife, Tsamouras isn't thrilled that a Starbucks will replace his restaurant. He said that despite everything he owes to the

students from the College, the time is right for him to move on. Business is not doing as well as in the past, and he feels he's lost touch with the clientele.

"I don't feel like I know many of the students any more," he said. "They hop around the Delis, and it doesn't seem like they have any loyalty to one place like they used to. It's not a bad thing, it's just the way it is now. Times are changing, you know what I mean? We've got so much more police. The problem with adults is that they don't remember what it was

See **DELLY** page 8

## Ball to be anything but a drag

By ASHLEY GRIGGS  
THE FLAT HAT

Originality is a term that is valued markedly by students at the College. This Saturday night, individuals from the student body — and all over — will have the opportunity to let loose and show their unseen colors at the ninth annual Drag Ball.

"You never know who's going to show up," junior Robert Tisdale said. Tisdale is the president of the College's chapter of the Lambda Alliance, the organization that has hosted the dance for almost a decade. In addition to offering an eccentric night of entertainment, the Lambda Alliance holds the event to promote Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender awareness in the Williamsburg community.

This year's Drag Ball will be at 10 p.m. Saturday night at the University Center. Admission is \$5 at the door, and the theme of the night is Burlesque. For those who don't know, "burlesque" implies that the atmosphere will be filled to the brim with humor, mockery, charades and possibly a striptease or two.

Students often take the event

as an occasion to be fabulously creative with their apparel. There is no formal dress code of any sort, so themed attire is optional. "You don't have to go in drag," Tisdale said. "Some people do, and some don't. It's always fun to see different takes on [the costumes]."

While the College provides some funding for Drag Ball, the admittance fee goes toward entertainment. Four professional performers from the area have been hired for the evening: Miss Naomi Black, Faith Devereux Warner, Sydney Devereux and Fushia Deville will unveil their talents as professional drag queens.

While the event is slated to have a typical turn-out of approximately 200 to 250 students, there are expected to be a few surprises this year. "You can do a lot with Burlesque," Tisdale said. The host of the evening, Black — a performer who has hosted all of the College's Drag Balls in years past — is said to have "a little surprise with her," according to Tisdale. Whether this mystery implies that Black is updating the dance moves in her standard show or simply adding a few new costumes to her wardrobe is unknown.

"Naomi is one of the best in the

region," said senior Sean Barker, Office Manager of the Lambda Alliance. "[She's] one of the best I've seen."

Black never intended to become a drag queen. After pursuing a career in modeling, she got into the business due to the influence of a couple of friends and encounter with a professional drag queen. Now, she lives a life that she describes as "Hollywood on a smaller scale. It's kind of like having the best of two worlds. I'm your average, everyday person at home watching TV and I also have the glitz and glam of celebrity notoriety."

In terms of how the College's Drag Ball compares to other venues at which Black has performed, the entertainer claims that "it's not the best drag in the world, but it's interesting." Though Black has fond memories of every Ball that she has hosted at the College, the very first one was her most unforgettable experience. "I get there, and it's like 'TRL.' These kids were crazy and excited. That show was so amazing to me."

According to Black, her act is toned down because of the dance's location on a college campus. "The Drag Ball is a little taste of what



Students in varying costume styles dance at last year's Drag Ball. This year, the event will be at 10 p.m. Saturday in the University Center.

the performance is like," Black said. The bars and taverns where she normally performs allow for a more comprehensive display of her talents.

Not only do students in the Williamsburg area come to support the event, but people have been

known to travel to the College from different states. "We always get students from other colleges," Tisdale said. He also mentioned that students from a other Virginia schools such as Virginia Commonwealth University and Old Dominion University have flocked to the Ball in past years.

Though Drag Ball is not the typical party, students at the College are usually very receptive to the dance. "I haven't seen instances when people were against it," Tisdale said. "It's a different kind of party than the usual [fraternity] dance parties."

### CONFUSION CORNER



Lauren Bell

Some people might think that we at the College are totally above all the silliness that is "March Madness." They assume that students at the College would never waste our precious studying, napping and "social faux pas" time worrying about the fate of athletes at schools we do not attend. They believe that our idea of victory is finding a seat at the library. They presume that, just because they sound like the delicious offerings at your neighborhood pre-made wrap stand, we cannot recognize the fine nuances between a "pick and roll" and a "give and go." And to these naysayers I say ... touché, but I also say, "Oh, we have the madness!" And we like it.

I would wager that here at the College, we appreciate March Madness more than those thankless wretches at places like UNC and Texas A&M. They take March Madness for granted. "Gosh, we won another basketball game? We're some sort of champion, and we have another three-day celebration kegger?"

God, life is so tiresome; how I long for a nice, refreshing losing streak."

We at the College, on the other hand, treasure the chance to vicariously live the life of athletics fans via the March Madness media mania (almost as much as we treasure the chance to use alliteration). Shoot, people have skipped classes to watch televised games. Do you understand the gravity of this situation? Students here go to classes in snow flurries, tropical storms and even on perfect days when they should really just be sitting in the Sunken Garden. Skipping class to sit alone in your bedroom and watch people you don't know play a sport you may or may not understand is intense.

Aside from allowing our long-dormant primal sports fan some space to roam, what is it about NCAA basketball that gets our hearts pumping, our eyes twinkling and our prayer beads working?

I say it's the gambling.

Bracket competitions are the muscle behind the madness. Brackets personalize the competition. When a person has a bracket, it's not just some team she's cheering for — she's cheering to save her pride and to win some cash money. When a person's chosen team loses, he's not just another heartbroken fan; he's subject to widespread humiliation at the hands of everyone else in his "pool." If a person is on a winning streak, she gets bragging rights and an inflated sense of superiority — the kind that makes you want to post Facebook messages saying things like, "Eat it, newspaper nerds!" when you are currently winning your Flat Hat bracket. Yesssssss.

These are the sorts of things sports dreams are made of, no? I can just see the Georgetown (going all the way!) coach giving his halftime locker room speech. He doesn't pansy around with talk of teamwork or pride or school spirit. He tells it like it is: "Guys, we need to step

it up. Thousands, nay, millions of people are counting on you. Do you want your bracketeers to be the butt of office jokes tomorrow because you couldn't get it together? Do you want Lauren Bell's big fat drop in the previous paragraph to be rendered null? I didn't think so. Let's do this — for the numbers."

You don't have to be a basketball fan to get in on the March Madness. You barely have to know what a basketball is or how it's played. And if you — like many of us here at the College — harbor a deep psychological fear of sports, you don't even have to watch the games (although I hear that yelling at the TV screen really helps your team to win). Just fill in some names on a bracket, then find someone who knows less than you to bet with (I hear newspaper people are easy pickings), and let the madness overtake you.

Lauren Bell is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She likes winning more than she likes basketball.





By ELIZABETH DERBY  
THE FLAT HAT

Scott Brown is this year’s Mr. William and Mary for a reason. He’s got it all: charisma, radiantly approachable attitude, great taste in eveningwear. His charm spans four spoken languages, and though his conversation of the world is fast-paced and smart, his love for things nearest and dearest — his family, his dog shelter, his softball team — requires no translation. That Guy describes the perks of W&M stardom, where to buy briefs in waist size 83 and how to sweet-talk one’s way out of death in the desert.

So, Mr. William and Mary, what’s your talent?

My talent was a three-part blitzkrieg. I began with some karaoke to “God Must Have Spent a Little More Time on You,” then I moved into a beatbox, which I’ve been doing seriously since a young age and then I moved into some free-styling. I also had a bit of a costume change: I went from my somewhat conservative Northface into my Biggie Smalls shirt with my ten-point Jewish star and the rest of my bling.

So what would you say sealed the deal for you?

I think I look very good in a black bikini. I also had Clay Clemens’s name tattooed on my ass. There was a big heart with Clay’s name on it with an arrow through it. Plus Larry the Caf man and I had a natural banter as appreciators of food. I took the eveningwear seriously: I wore red and black — very sexy, very classy.

Are people treating you differently?

During Campus Golf I brought a dog out with me. I work at a dog shelter during the week, and on Saturday I brought one of my dogs out — it’s a total chick magnet, by the way — and people came up to me saying “Hey, I know you!” People have been wonderful about the whole thing, very gracious.

You’re an Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies major. Where does your interest come from?

Growing up my parents would always leave the TV on, so when I was playing with my Lincoln Logs I was also watching CNN. I have an insatiable appetite for the world, and I always loved knowing what was going on. The Middle East was kind of natural for me to go into, but then of course 9/11 happened.

Tell me about Tunisia.

The people were so incredibly gracious. I got invited to weddings, received marriage proposals, bargained in the markets. Riding a camel in the Sahara Desert was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Standing on the Algerian border where they filmed the Star Wars pod race, the berbers, going out and spending the night with drunk Tunisian students — it’s just such a different country. It’s a dictatorship, so the president’s face is everywhere. I survived, and there’s nothing I love to do more than sit outside at night smoking sheesha, drinking tea, talking with the old men about whatever. It was an incredible experience.

I almost died in the Sahara Desert. We were being approached by these desert nomads called berbers, and

# That Guy

## Scott Brown

they offered to give these girls a ride on their beautiful Arabian horses. They were carrying swords and jewelry, and to make a long story short the professor told us not to take a ride because they would charge us. For example, if one of the girls had gone for a ride with them, he would have said, “Give me all your money or I’ll cut your throat.” It’s the middle of the desert, it’s 120 degrees at six in the morning, we’re 10 American college students, all white. So the girls didn’t take a ride but they did take pictures, and the guy said, “You will pay me now.”

I was the only one who spoke Arabic, so I went over and said, “Hellas,” which means ‘enough’ in Arabic. They looked at me like I had four heads. I said “That’s my wife, that’s my sister, and that’s my sister-in-law” — it’s very much a patriarchal society — “and you have no permission to speak to them.” The berbers asked where I was from, and I said Egypt, and they asked what city, and I said, “On the Nile.” They were basically sitting there smoking and wondering what to do, and I said, “If you don’t leave them alone I will tell the elder.” They don’t put up with harassment of tourists, it’s a crime. So they turned to me and said in Arabic, “Tunisia and Egypt, in the Koran, we are brothers. I will let you go. I’m very sorry.” But ultimately I thought I was just going to be a headline on CNN News: Local, chubby, Jewish kid gets chopped up in the Sahara Desert. Remains are found in Oasis.

Do you see these experiences playing out in your future?

With the language skills, I’ve been sniffing around a little bit. I’ve made some trips to different government agencies, several varieties, including one that starts with a “C” and ends with an “IA” a couple of times. I’ve gotten one or two offers, but I want to keep my options open. I think next year’s plan is to spend the summer in Morocco and then go home to work at the family business, and then go to graduate school. For now, I’m taking it slow. I don’t want to pigeonhole myself.

Since you bring it up — what’s the best part of working at a Big & Tall store?

I started working in the store when I was five. My great-great-grandfather founded it in Boston in 1946, and it has been in my family 60 years. My father now works there, my mother works there; my grandfather, who is 83, still works there (in some capacity). We carry the largest sizes in the world. We carry up to waist size 90 and ship all over the world. We’ve fitted pro-athletes, celebrities. We ship to “Lost” (the big guy on “Lost” is one of our customers), Ted Williams (the greatest hitter of all time) is a customer of ours.

So that’s what I do over the summer and over Christmas break. Christmas season is basically known as tuition season in the Brown household. So if Jared from Subway is successful in convincing the country to go slim, I can’t go to college anymore. It’s not that I’m rooting for people to get fat, I just want to finish. Bigmen.com — shameless promotion, but it’s very important to me.

# Goodbye College Delly

DELLY from page 7

like when they were 21, when they were being bad. Everybody wants to know why I’m selling. The only people I owe anything to is the students. I don’t owe any explanation to anybody else.”

Tsamouras said the petitions that have been circulating to try and keep the Delly intact have made the decision to sell emotionally tough. “I tried a couple of times to groom someone to

take over, but it never worked out,” he said. “None of the offers I got from people wanting to keep the Delly open were reasonable. I don’t like that there’s a Starbucks coming in, but there weren’t any other options.”

Come July 1, the Delly will cease to exist, and Tsamouras is not looking forward to closing. “It’s sad to me. I don’t want to go,” he said. “The only people I’ll miss are the students. I’ll remember them forever.”

## CLASSIFIEDS

## MCR TICKETS

Need 2 Floor Tickets for the MCR concert?!  
Please call (757) 220-3849

Classifieds are FREE for students, and otherwise \$.25/wd./issue and must be pre-paid. Call 757-221-3283 or e-mail fhads@wm.edu for more info.

## SUDOKU

			3		4		8	9
			9	5	1			2
	7		8			3	1	5
3		2				4	5	
7	6						9	1
	5	1				8		3
2	1	6			3			
8			1	4	9			
5	4		7		6			

Easy

3			5					
4		9				6		
7			4		3			9
						8	4	
6								5
	7	1						
2			6		9			8
			4			5		7
					8			3

Hard

8	3	1	9	2	7	6	4	5
9	2	5	6	4	1	7	3	8
4	7	6	3	8	5	9	1	2
3	9	8	7	6	2	1	5	4
1	6	2	5	3	4	8	9	7
7	5	4	8	1	9	2	6	3
5	1	3	2	9	8	4	7	6
2	4	7	1	5	6	3	8	9
6	8	9	4	7	3	5	2	1

Easy

3	2	6	8	4	7	5	9	1
7	9	5	1	2	3	4	6	8
8	1	4	6	5	9	7	3	2
2	6	3	4	9	8	1	7	5
5	7	1	2	3	6	8	4	9
9	4	8	5	7	1	3	2	6
6	5	2	3	1	4	9	8	7
1	3	9	7	8	2	6	5	4
4	8	7	9	6	5	2	1	3

Hard

Directions:  
Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each three-by-three block contain all of the digits 1 through 9.

Source: krazydad.com

# Ten reasons not to hook up drunk

Let’s play a game: “Never have I ever hooked up drunk.” Look around, there are a lot of fingers — and drinks — going down. As college students, drinking and sex are probably two of our favorite pastimes. That’s

## BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



Kate Prengaman

okay, except when we rely on the former to feel comfortable with the latter. I’m not here to preach against drinking or sex, but against the dangerous cycle of only being able to be sexual while intoxicated, and using alcohol as the catalyst or the excuse. So, here’s my top ten list of reasons not to have drunken sex:

Reason 10: You might regret it in the morning. Everyone knows this one — you’re obviously not at your peak decision-making capability after more than a few drinks. You might regret your choice of partner, the fact that you forgot about your boyfriend or the fact that you did it in the living room. In any case, choices made under the influence are not always the same choices that you might make while sober. Nothing goes worse with a hangover than an extra dose of regret.

Reason nine: You don’t know who’s watching. Seriously, this could be a problem. Drunken liaisons do not always occur in the privacy of one’s own room. Many encounters take place at the same parties where they began. This is fine if you have a little bit of an exhibitionist streak, and you don’t care who knows that you hooked up with so-and-so and who saw you doing it. However, if you like to keep your personal life personal, this may cause problems.

Reason eight: You may not be able to communicate clearly. Communication is a key to good sex, and a lack thereof is a recipe for problems. If someone is having trouble communicating “no” to their partner, serious issues arise. In a survey by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 100,000 college students reported occasions of being too drunk to know whether they gave consent. Other results could just be bad: uncomfortable sex, or perhaps moaning the wrong name. In any cause, awkwardness may ensue.

Reason seven: Overdosing on alcohol may make you nauseated. A potentially upset stomach probably won’t appreciate the rhythmic bouncing that usually constitutes sex. Plus, depending on what you’ve been drinking, you might feel fine at first and then find yourself feeling really bad at a really awkward moment. Chances are, that will not get you a second chance.

Reason six: There might have been a reason you had inhibitions sober. I’m not saying inhibitions are good, but there is no denying that there is a purpose for having them. If you feel uncomfortable about having sex sober, you probably shouldn’t do it drunk.



Reason five: It might be illegal. The legal definition of rape includes sex when one or both partners are intoxicated, because it is assumed that a drunken person is incapable of truly giving consent. While the law is protecting victim’s rights in many situations, it also creates a dangerous gray area for people who believe that they are having consensual sex.

Reason four: You probably won’t be very good at it. Studies have shown that sexual performance, along with other motor coordination skills, declines at a blood alcohol content of .06 to .10. You’ll be less sensitive to stimuli and less coordinated at providing stimuli. If you’re male, you may be less able to maintain an erection and achieve an orgasm.

Reason three: You might forget to use protection. According to a Washington Post survey, 38 percent of Virginia college students have had alcohol use lead to unsafe sex. That’s just not cool. Sex has its responsibilities (I know I sound like your parents, but it’s true) and a main one is using protection. Unplanned pregnancies and STIs can be life-altering, and they can occur even if you only did it “just that one night.”

Reason two: Drinking is directly linked to sexual violence. I know that everyone thinks that it could never happen to them, but an NIAAA survey reported that 50 percent of all sexual assaults occur when alcohol is involved. Of those assaults, almost all (97 percent) involved an inebriated assailant and an inebriated victim. Staying sober can help you make the important choices necessary to protect yourself.

Reason one: Sex is more fun when you are fully aware that you’re having it. If you’re going to have sex, you’ll enjoy it more if you are sober enough to appreciate it all. Sex should not be something you’re glad to have forgotten about the next morning.

So, there you have it, 10 reasons not to engage in drunken sex. If you still don’t believe me, I’ve got one extra: If you’re drunk, you might not be able to figure out how to use the handcuffs, and that would just be unfortunate.

Kate Prengaman is the Flat Hat sex columnist. She is a list-making task master ... in bed.

Bob, get over here. Now's our chance.

Faulkner's started giving a speech.

His cabin should be down that hall. Don't let anyone see you.

I shall be...a stealthy cat. Better not purr and give myself away.

Sneak into his cabin and see what you can find.

Right...don't be seen.

HEY YOU!

This area is off-limits to guests, sir.

Your consciousness!!!

You know what else is off-limits?

That would've made more sense if you were knocked unconscious.

You're in big trouble, sir.

Next: A Tussle

Heroman

By Thomas Baumgardner

# Horoscopes

**Pisces:** Feb. 19 - March 20



The deeper, political intonations you’ve always suspected in “If You Give A Moose a Muffin,” solidified when you see Mussolini’s signature on the last page.

**Aries:** March 21 - April 19



Fresh off an all-nighter after procrastinating on a long paper, you resolve to be smarter about your work next time by taking more Adderall.

**Taurus:** April 20 - May 20



March Madness pools have you hopeful, but I don’t think the College will be happy when you charge students \$500 for courses in “Bracketology 101.”

**Gemini:** May 21- June 21



Although you may not think MTV’s “Wild ‘N’ Out” is a quality program, it still confirms your belief that Nick Cannon is really good at freestyle rap.

**Cancer:** June 22 - July 22



Eager to kick some ass with your newly acquired karate moves, you will learn an ancient lesson in humility this week when you burn your finger on an iron.

**Leo:** July 23 - Aug. 22



As the fun of spring break wears off and students settle back into classes, it will take you a long time to learn how to live with the Clap.

**Virgo:** Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



Ending a relationship is never easy, even if it means parting from the creep who may or may not be a student who stalked you for eight months.

**Libra:** Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



Being the cool customer Libras tend to be, you will not fret when you are kicked out of the five items or less line at Ukrop’s this week.

**Scorpio:** Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



You will be spooked this week when you envision a zebra playing a harpsichord with Levon Helms at William and Mary Hall — until you realize that it’s awesome.

**Sagittarius:** Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



It is about time you take a break from the everyday pains of waking up and living the same boring, predictable life. You will die this week.

**Capricorn:** Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



Crime investigators think that they can catch any criminal, but putting the gun in your stuffed ALF doll’s hands will definitely throw the forensics team off your case.

**Aquarius:** Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

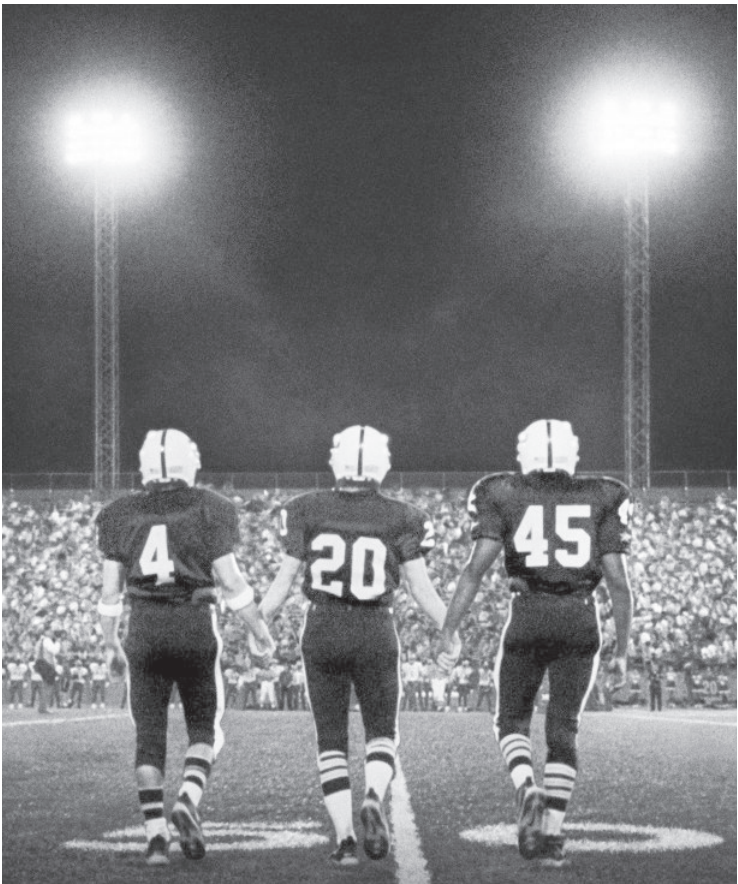


Live your life. If American Eagle, the great philosopher-jean company, has taught you anything, you will never forget to do this one simple task.



# REVIEWS

Reviews Editor **Conor McKay**  
Associate Reviews Editor **Alex Guillén**  
reviews@flathatnews.com



COURTESY PHOTO • NBC  
“Friday Night Lights,” which airs Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on NBC, follows the lives of people connected to a Texan high school football team.

## ‘Friday Night Lights’ shines for NBC

By **JEFF DOOLEY**  
FLAT HAT SPORTS EDITOR

“Friday Night Lights,” the NBC drama chronicling the life and times of the Texas town of Dillon and its beloved high school football team, the Panthers, has separated itself from the rest of what is a rather bleak network television landscape this year.

Before anyone points out the fact that the guy who writes for the sports section is choosing to review a show about a sports team, let me emphasize that “Friday Night Lights” is not a show about football. This show is about characters whose lives, yes, may be centered around football, but, as the show quickly makes clear, reducing them to merely football players, coaches and fans would be a gross oversimplification.

It takes quite a lot to crack the top of my list of favorite TV shows. I have previously kept “24,” “Lost” and “The Office” in firm standing. However, with its outstanding debut season, “Friday Night Lights” has quickly solidified itself as my favorite show on network TV.

For all great shows, excellence begins with writing. This show’s writers do a great job of giving enough face time to every one of its characters. Much like “The West Wing” did in its early seasons, the show works in all of the characters without throwing in superfluous plot lines.

The cast, from top to bottom, is exceptional, anchored by Kyle Chandler and Connie Britton, who play Coach Eric Taylor and his wife Tami, respectively. Their strong performances have a trickle-down effect on the entire cast, leading to scene-stealing performances by countless supporting members of the cast, most notably Adrienne Palicki as the smokin’ hot, disenchanted troublemaker Tyra Collette, Liz Mikel as Corrina Williams, the hardworking single mother of the football team’s star running back and Brad Leland as the meddling, charmingly unethical Buddy Garrity.

Each character is very likable in his or her own way. The closest thing the show has to a villain is Garrity, whose acts of adultery and recruiting violations become very hard for the viewer to defend at times, but he always wins us back over with his hilarious antics (in a recent episode, he used a pencil to trace over the imprints on a notepad left by Coach Taylor’s pen, so that he could find out where the coach was having dinner, then, upon being caught, proudly told the coach that he had learned the sophisticated trick from watching “Matlock”).

For all my fellow sports fans out there who have grown sick of the unrealistic sports scenes in movies like “Jerry Maguire,” rest assured: “Friday Night Lights” passes the sports realism test. The occasional broken tackle may cause you to suspend disbelief, but the “football talk” dialogue is spot-on, and most of the action scenes are as well. That being said, the writers also do a good job of providing just the right amount of football scenes. There’s usually enough to get a good taste of the action, while still never making the game itself the focal point of the episode.

The show’s plot lines have been good as well, covering a wide range of issues, from the former star quarterback’s dealing with a spinal cord injury that has left him paralyzed from the waist down, to race-related issues, to steroid use, to teen sex. The writers’ ability to consistently blend all these elements with the football backdrop is something to behold.

“Friday Night Lights” is sad without being sappy, meaningful without being hokey, funny without being corny and has quietly become the best show on network television today. But, unfortunately, like too many other great shows (i.e. “Arrested Development”) of recent years, it has been facing risk of cancellation due to poor ratings. So, please, don’t give NBC the chance to cancel it. Watch this show. You’ll get hooked. I promise.

By **BETH SUTHERLAND**  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Hollywood has unleashed a masterpiece of hero lore on the world in the form of Zack Snyder’s epic “300.” The film’s tagline sums it up perfectly: “Prepare for glory.” It’s about unabashed courage and self-sacrifice in the name of freedom. It’s sad and it’s inspirational, but, mostly, it’s wicked cool. Based on Frank Miller’s (“Sin City”) graphic novel of the same name, the film stylistically echoes its comic book origins. What proves so extraordinary is that it manages both literary exaggeration and — despite what has been said by paranoid politicians — an impressive measure of historical integrity.

The film’s hero is King Leonidas of Sparta — an actual ruler rumored to be a descendant of Heracles — and it covers the famous Battle of Thermopylae, in which a band of (you guessed it) 300 Spartan soldiers and a handful of allies stand off against hundreds of thousands of Persian invaders. Though every Spartan man has a body that would shame the most idealized sculpture, this reviewer argues that it would be hard to exaggerate Spartan militarism. So hard, in fact, that this film fails to do so. Strangely, “300” has suffered the abuse of ignorant, politically obsessed critics who insist that this clash-of-civilizations story is merely Western propaganda. Perhaps the most absurd and extreme example of this is Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s irritation with this “government-sponsored” attempt to demean the Iranian people. This laughable criticism, proposed both

in the US and out of it, is indicative of the sort of controversy the film has incited. The idea that liberal Hollywood could ever be the puppet of a Republican administration is beyond ludicrous. And the charges of “silly” exaggeration and Western chauvinism can be answered with a simple history lesson.

It’s about time that a movie about heroes actually looked like a movie about heroes. Bowing to Miller’s graphic novel, Snyder allows the heroes to look like gods and forces the villains to resemble the monstrosity of their actions (see the deformed traitor). Just as Disney’s Mulan fought huge, brutishly exaggerated Huns, so too does Leonidas fight deformed,

stereotypical Persians. It may not be politically correct to cover Persian elites in gold, show them in their harems, portray their king Xerxes as a narcissistic would-be deity, disclose that Xerxes beheaded unsuccessful generals or reveal that theirs was an army of slaves forced on a mission of conquest — but it’s true. Call it what you will (clash of civilizations or isolated incident), but this is merely a highly stylized version of how it actually happened. Spartans look like hardened bad boys because that’s what they were. The film portrays the agoge system faithfully — even mildly. Spartan boys underwent a harsh boarding school of violence and were turned loose

on the countryside. However, rather than merely survive the attacks of wild animals (such as the wolf in the movie), they were expected to return with a dead peasant. Also, at least three of the most brazen quotes in the movie were real. Herodotus tells us that, when told to surrender arms, Leonidas said, “Come and get them.”

Much could be written on the undeniable cinematic beauty of “300.” Snyder describes the graceful battle sequences as a kind of “ballet” of violence. And before modern viewers condemn, trivialize or even glorify this as a video-gamey gimmick — which they

See ‘300’ page 10



COURTESY PHOTO • WARNER BROS.  
Gerard Butler stars as Spartan king Leonidas in Zack Snyder’s new film “300.” The movie is based on the graphic novel of the same name by Frank Miller, who also wrote “Sin City.”

## New book on slang: I don’t think so

By **ALEX GUILLÉN**  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. REVIEWS EDITOR

In her new book, “Slam Dunks and No-Brainers: Pop Language in Your Life, the Media, and, Like ... Whatever,” Leslie Savan, an advertising critic and Village Voice contributor, claims to explore the phrases that have entered popular usage since their inception. At first it seems like a fascinating idea, but under the incredibly biased and wandering hand of Savan, it turns from fascinating to insipid to ironic to annoying.

Savan begins by listing almost every cliched word and phrase she knows — pages and pages of them. After all that complaining, she suddenly admits to using them. “Some phrases ... are just so ingrained that I figure, Why fight them?” Perhaps because you’re writing a book about how those phrases have polluted the English language? Unfortunately, you don’t get the best of both worlds; either fight slang or quit your bitching.

At least Savan is honest; she states outright that she is prejudiced: “There are some pop locutions that I like and others I bristle at every time.” She says that she enjoys the term “road rage” (which makes few if any appearances in the rest of the book), but that she

hates “I don’t THINK so,” which somehow manages to appear several hundred times. Either Savan is trying to annoy the reader by beating a dead horse or she actually likes the phrase, like some sort of guilty pleasure.

She goes on to provide a definition of pop language that serves not to clarify, but to muddle and confuse. “Pop language is, most obviously, verbal expression that is widely popular and is part of popular culture. Beyond that, it’s language that pops out of its surround [sic]; conveys more attitude than literal meaning, pulses with a sense of an invisible chorus speaking it, too; and, when properly inflected, pulls attention, and probably consensus, its way.” Um, what? How is that

different from slang, and why does it matter?

Savan begins the book with a discussion on black vernacular and how it has affected the English language overall for hundreds of years. She attributes the reversal of word meanings (i.e., “bad” meaning “good”) to slaves having to talk covertly in front of white overseers. She also postulates that whites use “black language” like “back in the day” and “old school” to sound more multicultural and in-tune with black society. “Today, the language of an excluded people is repeated by the nonexcluded in order to make themselves sound more included.” According to Savan, this is what led to the humorous McDonald’s ad campaign of 2005. In an attempt to

sound more urban, McDonald’s used the phrase, “I’d hit it,” to describe its double cheeseburgers. The slang term means, “I’d have sex with that cheeseburger.” McDonald’s quickly and quietly dropped the ad.

One of the problems with the book is that Savan feels the need to list as many examples of pop language as she can; pages and pages are used up with short examples of a term’s usage, many of which were apparently overheard by her or said by one of her friends — unverifiable and possibly made up to suit her needs. For instance, she lists dozens of times in which the phrase “I don’t THINK so” was used in the television sitcom “Friends.” It’s overkill to the extreme; no one needs to hear about every single time Chandler made a funny.

Another shortcoming of the book is the crippling lack of original ideas. Most of Savan’s information — rather the information she didn’t hear herself from a friend — is quoted from other books and articles. Very little of this book is her own research or theory; it reads more like a very long high school research paper. The few times she actually ventures to discuss her own personal theories, they come across as unimportant and superficial. She

See SLANG page 10

## Degradation of hip-hop makes some fans wonder where the music went

### CRITICAL CONDITION



Genice Phillips

I miss hip-hop. I miss its beauty, its uniqueness, its essence. I miss its depth and originality. I miss its poetic imagery and its narration. “Hip-hop is dead,” rapper Nas claims, and our generation watched it die. It was wrapped in artistic grooves and pulsating beats, but slowly unraveled itself through overtly sexual and violent themes. The constant beatings of commercialism and materialism led to its deterioration and untimely demise. Now we are left with stereotypical repetitions of money-making anthems and misogynist lyrics that leave women bending over to shake their ass every five seconds.

Over the past few years, hip-hop has gone through a massive change in its values and subject matter. When hip-hop emerged in the late 1970s in the Bronx, it was the beginning of a cultural movement. Positive images and themes of unity, political expression and

African-American culture were the main elements of this art form. Various DJs and rappers broke onto the scene, starting with one of the first hip-hop singles called “Rapper’s Delight” by The Sugarhill Gang. Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five soon followed with “The Message,” a critical look at the societal struggles and hardships from living in the ghetto. One can’t forget when Run DMC broke into the mainstream wearing Adidas. These musical artists were hip-hop icons, and the many that followed attempted to emulate and personify greatness.

Now, hip-hop is not even remotely close to where it used to be. Its existence is fleeting; it doesn’t attain the same level of vitality and innovation. I don’t see any Chuck Ds or Eazy Es rolling down the street, wanting me to join a hip-hop revolution. I can’t hear the abstract fusion of jazz and hip-hop from A Tribe Called

Quest. “Scenario” is being drowned out by imitator rappers shouting absurdities like: “Throws Some D’s,” “Ghetto Revival” or “Hallelujah Hollaback” (who the hell wants to revive the ghetto?).

Mainstream hip-hop missteps on the materialistic side and has left me stranded. Recurring images of gold chains, overpriced cars and several loose “bitches” permeate American society and culture. Stereotypical representations of black youth are sprawled in every direction, because my hip-hop generation would rather “Walk It Out” than gain “Knowledge of Self (K.O.S. Determination).”

The negativity and disconnection of hip-hop is in full frontal view, while socially conscious rappers The Roots, Common and Lupe Fiasco are buried beneath temporary hits and pushed further underground. Refined lyricism is replaced with contagious beats and catchy

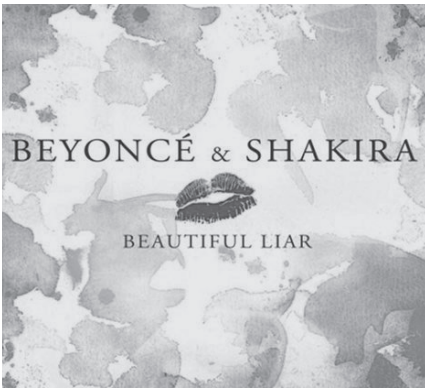
rhymes with no profundity, and the tremendous lack of creativity and individuality makes hip-hop predictable.

The hip-hop genre is suffering, and we need something to revitalize and cleanse it. Hip-hop needs to throw away those CDs that pose as dental brochures on how to keep your grillz clean and get-rich-quick schemes. Hip-hop needs to abandon the allusions to Scarface, refrain from throwing champagne on scantily clad women and, instead, stimulate minds with positive change and intellectual flows. Its voice is stifled and, frankly, I’m tired of having to learn a new dance every two weeks.

Hip-hop — it used to be great. It wasn’t on the corner counting stacks; it was conversing with the people, talking to me. It had an attitude that breathed confidence. It was pure and fresh. Damn ... I “Used to Love H.I.M.”

Genice is a sophomore at the College.





Singled Out  
Beyoncé & Shakira — “Beautiful Liar”  
From their single “Beautiful Liar — EP”

Beyoncé and Shakira have teamed up on a single. Funny thing is, the EP it has been released on features four versions of the song, and oddly enough, Shakira is absent in two of them: the Spanish and Spanglish versions.

— compiled by Conor McKay

iTunes top 10 albums

1. *We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank* — Modest Mouse
2. *Elliott Yamin* — Elliott Yamin
3. *Back to Black* — Amy Winehouse
4. *Introducing Joss Stone* — Joss Stone
5. *Beautiful Liar* — Beyoncé & Shakira
6. *Undiscovered* — James Morrison
7. *Daughtry* — Daughtry
8. *Neon Bible* — Arcade Fire
9. *Sound of Silver* — LCD Soundsystem
10. *300 (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)* — Tyler Bates

Desperate for help

Jesse Metcalfe, formerly of “Desperate Housewives,” checked into rehab Monday for “alcohol issues.” However, it may be too late to save his public image. The star was spotted at four different clubs Saturday night in a drunken stupor, finally being thrown out of a Los Angeles hotel. The hotel claims that it merely refused him a room and denied reports that he was told never to return. Either way, he’s ended up in the right hotel.



No Bund in the oven

Mr. Patriot Tom Brady hasn’t fathered two children in four months after all. The quarterback’s new girlfriend, Victoria’s Secret model Gisele Bündchen, has finally denied rumors that she is pregnant with his child. The reports of the pregnancy came only a month after Brady’s former girlfriend, movie star Bridget Moynahan, announced that she was over three months pregnant with — you guessed it — Tom’s baby. It seems the two-time super bowl MVP does more than just win football games.



Famous for being skinny

Nicole Richie’s life truly is simple. Richie has recently been diagnosed with hypoglycemia, a condition characterized by low-blood sugar caused by an overactive pancreas secreting too much insulin. The symptoms? Dizziness, faintness, fatigue and — drumroll — chronic skinniness. Fans of “The Simple Life” need not worry, however, as Nicole plans to go forward with the show’s fifth season.

— compiled by Conor McKay



McCartney blend?

Paul McCartney refuses to fade away. The former Beatle is set to release the first album ever for the new label Hear Music, the love child of Seattle’s favorite brewing company, Starbucks, and Concord Music Group. Let’s all hope the album fares better than Heather Mills’ turn on “Dancing With the Stars,” as McCartney’s ex did not impress the judges. For Paul, let’s hope Starbucks pays him well — the divorce settlement with Mills totalled at \$56 million.



# Comic book-inspired ‘300’ dazzles

‘300’ from page 9

seem set upon doing — we should stop and remember that there was a time when battles literally saturated the ground with blood. Limbs flew, elephants (sometimes) charged, spears impaled and heads rolled in the warfare of antiquity. It almost seems laughable that critics would dismiss “300” as a gore-fest when it would be impossible to accurately portray the brutality of ancient warfare and keep the film tame enough to achieve an R-rating. What better way, then, to convey the swords-and-sandals savagery we love in “Rome” and “Gladiator” than to stylize it? Better to see comic-bookishly

tasteful decapitations and pretty scarlet splashes than the spilt intestines, maimed sufferers and cloven skulls found in Homer and Virgil. The gloomy, grainy look of the film (which was shot almost entirely in front of a blue screen) lends it an old, mysterious air and is punctuated by the Spartans’ brilliantly red cloaks. Standing in the rocky mountain pass awaiting the morning’s violence, the soldiers look more like somber mystics. A film about macho warriors becomes a haunting defense of liberty.

Finally, the casting makes the movie. Having previously played epic protagonists like Beowulf and Attila, Gerard Butler (“Phantom of the Opera”) shines as Leonidas.

His roar terrifies and inspires and he offers us a paradoxically contemplative man of action. Lena Headey (“Brothers Grimm”) does justice to the noble Queen Gorgo by accurately representing the hardness expected of Spartan women. The film’s villain, played by Dominic West (“The Forgotten”), is delightfully despicable, and, last but certainly not least, David Wenham’s (“The Two Towers”) indelibly unique voice narrates the entire film. He weaves this tale of glory so movingly that the viewer is reminded of the stirring epitaph that can still be found at the battle site: “Go, tell the Spartans, stranger passing by, / That here, obedient to their laws, we lie.” ★★★★★

# Time-bending ‘Premonition’ flails

By MOHAMMAD RAHMAN  
FLAT HAT ONLINE EDITOR

The premise of seeing into the future or having the ability to change the past is a recurring theme in cinema. When done right, it can produce gems like “The Butterfly Effect.” When done wrong, disasters such as the \$80-million-flop “A Sound of Thunder” are the result. Sony Pictures takes a stab at this genre with “Premonition.”

Sandra Bullock (“Miss Congeniality”) stars as Linda Hanson, a housewife who wakes up one morning to hear that her husband, Jim, played by Julian McMahon (“Fantastic Four”), has died in a car accident. As if that were not a big enough shock, Linda wakes up the next morning to find him alive and well. The rest of the plot involves days in which he is alternately dead and alive. The filmmakers couldn’t confuse viewers more.

With an intriguing premise, an engaging trailer and a star in Bullock, “Premonition” seemed to have everything going for it at first glance. However, something just does not seem right about the film. After some research, the chinks in its armor start to show.

The director, Mennan Yapo, is a rookie whose only other credit includes the the obscure and little-viewed German thriller “Soundless.” Yapo merely does an adequate job. He manages just enough to get by. For a film with a striking concept, there is no unique stylistic approach taken, making the film rather disappointing. The screenplay is written by Bill Kelly, whose only

other Hollywood credit is the awful 1999 comedy “Blast from the Past” starring Brendan Fraser. In “Premonition,” what starts as a sci-fi thriller turns into a religious battle-turned-drama. Besides the genre-hopping, the numerous alternate realities that Linda goes through get frustrating and it seems that events are either thrown in for convenience or to take up celluloid. The climax of the film is rushed since so much time is spent on events

that aren’t essential to the plot. A connection is never developed between the characters and the viewer. The film had a chance to end with a very big bang, but instead it can’t even go out with a whimper. The ending is by far one of the most frustrating since “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest.”

Kelly’s screenplay also kills any chance the actors have of giving a good performance. The dialogue is shoddy and often laughable, Bullock being the main culprit. She recites her lines



COURTESY PHOTO • TRISTAR  
Sandra Bullock stars as Linda Hanson in the new thriller “Premonition.”

like a robot, which is disconcerting considering she is a fine actress. McMahon is no help, either. He’s just as wooden as Bullock and, sad as it is, he should probably go back to being Victor Von Doom in the “Fantastic Four” movies — at least those are supposed to be cheesy.

The final of the film’s major flaws is that the twist is given away in the trailer. It’s not even hard to spot, which makes the ending even more frustrating. “Premonition” is a lot like last month’s “The Number 23” — a film that could have been a great thrill ride with some tweaking, but is instead boring and innocuous. ★★☆☆☆

# Book on slang doesn’t cut it


SLANG from page 9

departs from her ramblings at one point to reveal something “possibly stupid, possibly stunning:” many popular TV shows have the letter S in their titles. “‘Seinfeld,’ ‘The Simpsons,’ ‘The Sopranos,’ ‘The Daily Show with Jon Stewart,’ ‘SpongeBob SquarePants,’ ... ‘The Larry Sanders Show,’ ‘Mr. Show.’” Actually, those last two didn’t do

so well. And just because some popular shows contain the most used letter in the alphabet doesn’t mean it is a requirement for success; look at “Lost,” “Gray’s Anatomy,” “Desperate Housewives,” “The Office,” “House” and “Family Guy.” Her revelation is as far from stunning as could be.

Ultimately, the book is a rambling complaint about the phrases, TV programs, people and politics

she doesn’t like. “Slam Dunks and No-Brainers” lacks focus and purpose: no coherent message prevails, and the reader is left wondering what exactly Savan is trying to accomplish with this book. The prose is also cluttered, each sentence weighed down by pop words as she tries to point out the irony in using pop words. If at this point you’re thinking you shouldn’t bother reading this book: “Duh.”



## Love Your Body Week

**March 26-30, 2007**

**“Be Wise: Love Your Size”**

**Sponsored by C.A.R.E.S.**  
**at the College of William and Mary**

**Collegiate Awareness Regarding Eating Smart**

**Monday, March 26**  
**Healthy Cooking Class, 4PM Lodge One**  
Learn how to cook healthy with Dining Services Executive Chef, Denis Callinan. There will be a cooking demonstration and tasting. Walk-ins welcome.  
**Healthy Pastry Class, 6PM, The Commons Football Dining Room**  
Learn how to cook delicious and healthy desserts with Dining Services Pastry Chef, Gerry Fortin. Walk-ins welcome.  
**Movie, “Do I Look Fat?”, 7:30pm, UC Commonwealth Auditorium**  
A film about gay men, body image and eating disorders. Discussion afterwards lead by the film’s creator, Travis Matthews. \*\*\*A qualified counselor will be available after the movie.

**Tuesday, March 27**  
**“Love Your Body Fitness Class”, 6:00PM, Rec Center Multi-activity Court**  
Exercising can be fun! This class is FREE and open to all students, faculty and staff of all different fitness levels- beginners welcome. The class will include kickboxing, hip hop and toning. Chance to win free group fitness passes, massages and personal training sessions! Bring your friends and come check out our new Rec Center!

**“W&M Student Panel on Eating Disorders”, 8PM, UC Tidewater A**  
Come hear William and Mary students who have been affected by eating disorders share their stories of hope and triumph. \*\*\*A qualified counselor will be available after the panel.

**Wednesday, March 28**  
**“Walk with the President”, 7AM, Wren side of the Brafferton.**  
Join President Nichol for a morning fitness walk. (FREE t-shirts to the first 50 walk participants, free mugs for the first 100 and FREE hot beverages from the Daily Grind for ALL walkers).  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Celebrating Our Bodies” Dance Showcase, 7PM, UC Commonwealth**  
Performances from campus dance groups: Tribal Dancers, Swing Dance Club, Ballroom Dance Club, Beledi Club, FASA, Pointe Blank, The Bhangra Dance Team and The Rec Sports Fitness Demo Team. Donations to the National Eating Disorder Awareness Organization accepted at the door. All those who give donations are eligible for door prizes.

**Thursday, March 29**  
**“Body Fair”, 4PM – 6PM, UC Terrace (Rain location: Chesapeake A&B)**  
Freebies! Massages! Lots of information designed to help you take care of yourself! \*\*\*A qualified counselor will be available during the Body Fair.  
**Nutrition Presentation by guest speaker Leslie Bonci, R.D., 7pm, UC Commonwealth**  
Leslie Bonci is the Nutrition Consultant for the Pittsburgh Steelers. She will give general nutrition advice geared towards male and female college students and answer your questions about how to eat healthy.

**Friday, March 30**  
**Movie, “Center Stage”, 7-9pm, Campus Center Little Theatre**  
A movie about teens dealing with the problems and stress of getting ahead in the world of dance. The film includes body image and eating disorder issues. \*\*\*A qualified counselor will be available after the movie in the Ballroom Conference Room.

**All Week**  
**Educational Information**  
Stop by our Cares table in the UC all week and look for information about eating disorders in the Rec Center and in the dining halls.  
**Healthy Eating Screenings**  
\*\*\*Talk with a qualified counselor about what to do if you or a friend is struggling with an eating disorder or disordered eating. Look for times noted by the astrix\*\*\* on the schedule.  
**“Celebrating Bodies” Art Display, UC Lobby**  
Come see a display of art work donated by Tangelo and the W&M Art Department.

**CARES strives to raise awareness about eating disorders and promote the development of an empowering body image and healthy lifestyle. For information please call the CARES Team at 221-3313 or email [jvrueh@wm.edu](mailto:jvrueh@wm.edu). Visit the CARES website at <http://www.wm.edu/health/cares>.**

## BEST KEPT SECRET IN WILLIAMSBURG

### BARCLAY SQUARE

**2<sup>nd</sup> floor End Unit      1500 sq. ft. CONDO**

**2 Bedrooms, 2 Full Baths, very large living room, dining room, kitchen and sunroom**

**Covered parking and locked storage unit**

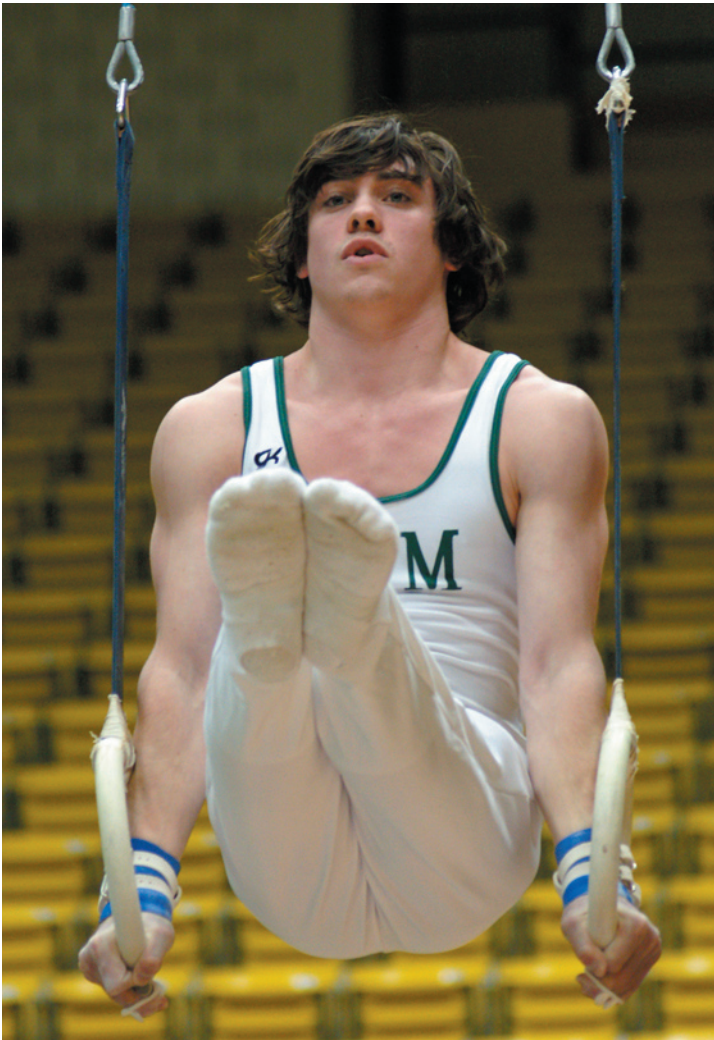
**Available June 1      Call 732-768-5860**

**Asking \$172,500.**









JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT  
The Tribe will host the USA Gymnastics Collegiate Championships this weekend at Kaplan Arena. See page 11 for article.

FROM THE SIDELINES

Sweet predictions for the round of sixteen

Editor's Note: Graham Williamson's column was completed prior to the start of last night's Sweet 16 matchups.



With the first two rounds in the books, this year's NCAA tournament can be described as anything but mad — in fact, this year's tournament has been downright predictable. For the first time since 1995, a team seeded in the double digits has not qualified for the Sweet 16. Even more surprisingly, not a single team outside of the top half of the field of 65 still remains. Seventh-seeded University of Nevada-Las Vegas stands as the lowest ranked team remaining. There are no George Masons toppling formidable UConn squads, no University of Alabama-Birmingham teams shocking top-seeded Kentucky Wildcats. Not even VCU, behind the stellar play of Eric Maynor, could ride their wave of momentum into the round of 16. Although grumblings can be heard across the nation about the lack of a “feel good” Cinderella squad to rally behind, both fans and analysts should not be so hasty in voicing their complaints. With the most talented teams in the country still remaining, the Sweet 16 promises to be more competitive and thrilling than ever before.

**Midwest Region**  
After the UNLV Runnin' Rebels pulled off arguably the most surprising upset of the tournament by defeating the second-seeded Wisconsin Badgers, the Midwest region is open for Florida's taking. Look for the Gators to easily cruise past a feisty but outmanned Butler squad. However, the Gators will be challenged in the Elite Eight by Aaron Brooks and the Oregon Ducks. The Ducks will attempt to catch the Gators off guard with their relentless defense and pinpoint shooting from behind the arc. Nevertheless, the inside presence and physical play of center Al Horford and forward Corey Brewer will prove to be too much for Oregon, as the top-seeded Gators will squeak by the Ducks and reach the Final Four for the second consecutive year.

**West Region**  
Easily the hottest team in the

nation, the Kansas Jayhawks stand as the consensus favorite to cruise through the Western region and into the Final Four. However, as the heralded analyst Lee Corso would say, “Not so fast, my friend.” In the round of 16, the spirited Salukis of Southern Illinois will provide the biggest upset of the 2007 tournament. Holding their opponents to a miniscule 49.5 points per game this season, the Salukis play the most stifling defense of any team in the nation. Talented point guard Mario Chalmers will be forced into numerous turnovers by both the pesky press of SIU and the tenacious defense of resilient guard Jamaal Tatum. Meanwhile, look for persistent guard Tony Young to create just enough offense for the Saluki's to sneak past the heavily-favored Jayhawks and into the Elite Eight. However, that is where the Salukis' magic carpet ride will come to a screeching halt. Led by Pac-10 player of the year Arron Afflalo, the UCLA Bruins will give the Salukis a dose of their own defensive medicine and advance to the Final Four, hence setting the stage for a rematch of last year's national title game between UCLA and Florida.

**East Region**  
With Kevin Durant and the Texas Longhorns out of the way, it would seem as if Tyler Hansbrough and the UNC Tar Heels will easily glide into the Elite Eight. However, the Heels must be sure not to overlook an underrated USC squad. I expect the Trojan post players Taj Gibson and Nick Young to slow down the dominant Hansbrough just enough to pull out a narrow overtime upset. Although the Trojans will be able to shock the Tar Heels, I believe the Trojans will fall short against the balanced attack of the Georgetown Hoyas. Arguably the best post presence in all of college basketball, the massive 7' 2" center Roy Hibbert gives the Hoyas a dominant force looming in the paint. Although Hibbert can own the glass on his own, the Hoyas also possess another beast in the post in oft-overlooked forward, Jeff Green. With his clutch play, Green almost

See SWEET 16 page 11

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 46, HOFSTRA 71

Disappointing end to tourney run

Tribe loses to Hofstra in second round of CAAs after defeating George Mason 79-69

By JESSICA HECHT  
THE FLAT HAT

The Tribe opened its 2007 CAA tournament performance by defeating George Mason University 79-69 for the third time this season. The victory helped improve the College's overall record to 19-11 (10-8 in conference play), which is just one win short of the school's all-time win record established during the 1993-1994 season. Unfortunately, the Tribe suffered a crushing 46-71 defeat to Hofstra University in the next round of the tournament and was unable to reach its 20th win or get a bid to the NCAA tournament.

In the contest against George Mason, the Tribe out-shot the Patriots 45.1 percent to 38.7 percent and held a 40-28 advantage on the boards. Junior Kyra Kaylor led the College with 17 points and 14 rebounds, recording her 11th double-double of the year. Kaylor also set the record for made free-throws, reaching 149 this season. Junior Devin James helped key the victory as well, adding 19 points to the total. The game was a strong overall team performance as sophomore Courtney Portell added 12 points, freshman Tiffany Benson recorded nine and seniors Sarah Stroh and Katy Neumer each tallied eight points.

The College started out with a three-pointer by Neumer, but the Patriots retaliated, taking a quick 8-3 lead. With 14:38 on the clock, Neumer sank another three to bring the Tribe within one point of GMU. The Patriots again answered back and pushed the lead to 19-13. The Tribe responded with a 9-2 run to take a slight lead for the first time since the opening minutes.

At intermission the Tribe trailed 26-24 and the score stayed close in the beginning of the second half. At the first media timeout, the score was knotted at 31 points. In the next five minutes, Kaylor, Neumer and James each knocked down three-pointers to keep the Tribe tied with the Patriots at 42 points at the next media break. With 11 minutes showing on the clock, the College scored seven unanswered



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT  
Junior forward Kyra Kaylor shoots against Old Dominion University Feb. 18. The Tribe lost 52-56.

points followed closely by an essential 10-2 spurt, holding a 63-50 advantage with a little more than four minutes remaining.

GMU closed the gap to eight points in the

See W. B-BALL page 11

BASEBALL: TRIBE 6, NORFOLK STATE 4

Tribe on four-game winning streak

College sweeps Towson, defeats Norfolk State, will travel to James Madison today

By MADDY WOLFERT  
THE FLAT HAT

Tribe baseball is on its second four-game winning streak of the season after recently sweeping a series against Towson University 4-3, 6-0, 15-8 and defeating Norfolk State University 6-4.

After Friday's scheduled contest was postponed due to rain, the Tribe faced the Towson Tigers March 17 and earned the 4-3 win in 12 innings. Junior Pete Vernon (2-2)

earned the win in relief with junior starting pitcher Sean Grieve and senior Warrik Staines both supplying solid pitching performances. Junior first baseman Greg Maliniak started the scoring for the Tribe with a homer in the second inning, 1-0. After the Tigers put two on the board in response, the College took back the lead in the bottom of the sixth, 3-2. Sophomore second baseman James Williamson singled and sophomore shortstop Lanny Stanfield hit a double to left field. Williamson touched home on a single by junior centerfielder

Paul Juliano and Stanfield scored stealing. A double by senior third baseman/short stop Greg Sexton equaled Brendan Harris' school record for career doubles (59) in the bottom of the tenth. Towson scored to knot it up and the teams battled through three more innings until the Tribe scored to win in the bottom of the twelfth, as senior designated hitter Brent McWhorter advanced from third to score on a Maliniak single to left field.

Sunday, the Tribe battled the Tigers in the rescheduled doubleheader, winning both contests, 6-0, 15-8, to sweep the series against Towson. In the first game, freshman Kevin Landry (3-2) provided sound defense and pitched the shut-out in seven innings, striking out three and allowing only four hits and two walks. The Tribe snatched the game in the bottom of the third, as sophomore catcher Jeff Wera, junior designated hitter Tim Park, Stanfield, McWhorter and Sexton all scored to reach 5-0. A homerun to right center by sophomore right fielder Robbie Nickle gave the Tribe a 6-0 finish. Head Coach Frank Leoni recorded his 300th career victory with the win.

Vernon (3-2) earned his second win of the afternoon, entering in relief of junior starting pitcher Pat Kantakevich and Staines, and not allowing any runs in the final three innings. The College began strong offensively, as both Park and Sexton homered in the bottom of the first. Both Park and Maliniak totaled three RBI, and Sexton and Nickle numbered two. The Tribe scored big in the sixth and eighth, totaling four in each inning, and finished with a total of 17 hits.

After dominating in the Towson series, the Tribe faced Norfolk State Tuesday and stretched the its winning streak to four, taking the contest 6-4. Freshman Tyler Truxell (3-2) recorded the win, with freshman Max Axelrod and Staines providing firm relief. The College collected the day's runs within the first four innings, scoring half in the bottom of the first. Park launched the Tribe offensive with a single through the left side and advanced on a sacrifice bunt from McWhorter and a ground out from Sexton, scoring as Sheridan smacked a double to left field. A single from Nickle scored Sheridan, and a run from Nickle later in the inning gave the Tribe a sound start.

The Tribe is back in action this weekend as the team faces James Madison University in Harrisonburg.



SARAH GRAYCE • THE FLAT HAT  
A Tribe infielder prepares to throw a ground out at second base. The Tribe is on a four-game winning streak and will play James Madison University in Harrisonburg this weekend.